

VETERANS DAY 2006

# THE AMERICAN Legion

[www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)

\$2.50 NOVEMBER 2006

*The magazine for a strong America*

This country does not forget God or the soldier. Upon both we now depend.

— John F. Kennedy, 1962



FOR GOD AND COUNTRY SINCE 1919





**NEW!**  
Genuine  
Suede  
Leather  
Shafts  
and

DuPont  
**Thermolite®**

**SNOW  
KING**

by **totes®**

**BOOTS**

**FLANNEL  
LINED** and only

**29<sup>99</sup>** per pair

**FREE  
POSTAGE**  
ON THIS ORDER

Available in  
**WIDE  
WIDTHS  
Too!**

**ONE-TUG  
ZIPPER!**

Tan  
Zipper



**Black  
Zipper**

**Waterproof  
Rubber  
Soles!**

**SNOW  
KING**

by **totes®**

**FLANNEL-LINED  
BOOTS**  
**29<sup>99</sup>\***  
per pair

**2 pairs 55.40**  
**3 pairs 80.75**

Imported

**Haband** 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Peckville, PA 18452

Send \_\_\_\_ pairs. I enclose \$\_\_\_\_ purchase price plus ~~\$4.95~~  
toward postage. **FREE Postage!**  
In GA add sales tax.

**D Widths:**

7 7½ 8 8½ 9 9½  
10 10½ 11 12 13

\*EEE Width (\$4 more per pair):

8 8½ 9 9½  
10 10½ 11 12 13



**77L-46518**

**7B**

**BLACK ZIP**

**T4**

**TAN ZIP**

**01**

**BLACK STRAP**

WHAT  
SIZE?

WHAT  
WIDTH?

HOW  
MANY?

When you pay by check, you authorize electronic clearing.

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover® Network ☐ AmEx ☐ Check

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp.: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Mr. Mrs. Ms. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_

City & State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**100% Satisfaction Guaranteed or Full Refund of Purchase Price at Any Time!**

**SNOW KING™ Boots**  
**kick the crud out of**  
**mud, snow, and rain!**

What else would you expect  
from the folks at totes®?

- Full acrylic fleece sock lining with Thermolite®
- One-piece, molded rubber waterproof base
- Rugged Genuine Suede Leather shafts
- Gusseted tongue to lock out moisture
- Padded collar
- Warm, flannel linings.

**29.99 a pair & FREE Postage.**



**Black also in MagicCling™ Strap**

**Haband!**

Duke Habernickel, Pres.  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Peckville, PA 18452

**1-800-543-4810**



**Shop Online:**  
**Haband.com**



If you're buying at a store, you're overpaying.

# World's Best Battery Value

only  
59¢ each

## AND WE'LL PROVE IT!

Yes, we can match your battery size.

- ✓ We trust you, send no money!
- ✓ Guaranteed fresh!
- ✓ Free shipping!

Two years ago we set out to find the **best hearing aid battery**. We found what we were looking for in Ellwangen, Germany. You know these famous premium batteries as Eco-Gold hearing aid batteries.

Superb German-engineering gives you a powerful, long-lasting battery you can count on ... *AND* at a fraction of the cost. We guarantee you'll be satisfied or your money back. The common price today in stores for premium batteries is \$1.12 per battery plus tax. Why pay more than you have to? **Eco-Gold is only 59¢ each!**

Tired of spilled batteries? Eco-Gold has spill-proof packaging. Simply push on each battery to **dispense TAB FREE!**

Don't wait until you run out. Call right now. Start saving right away. We'll even deliver Eco-Gold batteries to your door with **FREE shipping**.

Check us out on-line at: [www.EcoGold.com/34501](http://www.EcoGold.com/34501)

## Best battery check list

- ✓ Long lasting
- ✓ Maximum power
- ✓ Spill-proof packaging

**Only 59¢ each... you save 50%**

© Eco-Gold™•Sycamore, IL 60178-0539



### **100% Satisfaction Guarantee**

*If Eco-Gold batteries are not superior to your present brand, just return the unopened 6-packs for a 100% refund of any money paid. (Keep the opened 6-pack as our thank you to you.)*

**At 59¢ each you SAVE 50%!**

**We trust you – Send no money!**

For fastest service, call now toll-free:

**1-800-477-0977** ext. 345-01

✓ **YES!** I want to save 50% on premium hearing aid batteries! **FREE shipping!** Money-back guarantee! Please send me 42 batteries with invoice for only \$24.78.

Battery size and tab color:

Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms.

Street

City/State/Zip

**Mail to:** Eco-Gold, Dept 345-01  
219 W State St., PO Box 539  
Sycamore, IL 60178-0539

**Free  
Shipping!**





# contents

November 2006 • Vol. 161, No. 5

## 36

**The American Legion Riders' first Legacy Run brought in \$170,000 in scholarship money for children of U.S. military personnel killed on or after 9/11.** *Dave Elmore*

### ON THE COVER

Soldiers from Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, pause at the end of a patrol near Wynot, Iraq. *U.S. Army*

### 14 Who Should Vets Support?

Sens. Hillary Rodham Clinton and Larry Craig make their cases for Democrats and Republicans, respectively.

### 24 Glimpses of Heroes

A volunteer van driver reflects on the rewards of his many journeys.  
*By Ed Schweizer*

### 28 'Every Second Counts'

At the 88th National Convention in Salt Lake City, President George W. Bush assured Legionnaires of eventual victory in the war on terror.  
*By John Raughter*

### 54 A Marriage Made in Hell

Out of Hurricane Katrina's devastation may come one of VA's most historic partnerships.  
*By Jeff Stoffer*

### 5 Vet Voice

### 10 Commander's Message

### 12 Big Issues

### 60 Rapid Fire

### 68 Comrades

### 72 Parting Shots

The American Legion Magazine, a leader among national general-interest publications, is published monthly by The American Legion for its 2.7 million members. These wartime veterans, working through 15,000 community-level posts, dedicate themselves to God and Country and traditional American values; strong national security; adequate and compassionate care for veterans, their widows and orphans; community service; and the wholesome development of our nation's youth.



# Macular Degeneration

***The all new***



*Sit back and relax while you watch TV or enjoy reading a magazine, magnified on a built-in light-weight LCD screen.*

*The new SideKick™ magnifying side table ensemble switches between TV and a powerful magnifying camera to help you read.*



**Side**  
**VideoEye! Kick™**

Magnifying Side  
Table Ensemble

- Easily adjusts to any recliner
- Pivots effortlessly out of the way
- Connects to cable TV
- Self-focusing color camera
- Magnifies crafts and handwork
- Compact Eurostyle design
- Large ergonomic desk surface
- Complete and ready to use



**VideoEye!®**

See what you've been missing

Assistive Technology for the Visually Impaired

**1.800.416.0758**

**[www.videoeye.com](http://www.videoeye.com)**



# MESOTHELIOMA VICTIMS



## When training, experience and a steady hand really count, turn to fellow veterans.

For many veterans, their battles are far from over. They're stricken with mesothelioma from exposure to **ASBESTOS** aboard ships and elsewhere. Burdened with skyrocketing medical costs, vets and their families need financial security.

As former Marines, we know how to win a fight. As seasoned attorneys, we're here to fight for you today. Attorneys at Coady Law Firm have successfully represented veterans in mesothelioma claims nationwide for more than 20 years. We've helped them understand their rights – and have secured their rightful compensation.

Trust in those who've served with you. Contact the Coady Law Firm. Receive a **FREE**, no obligation consultation.



**Bud Coady**

Harvard, 1979  
USMC, 1979-89, 1991  
Gulf War Veteran  
Attorney at Law



**Dave Fanikos**

Harvard, 1985  
USMC 1986-1989  
Attorney at Law



For free medical and legal information, dial 1-888-802-MESO, or visit [www.MIRG.org](http://www.MIRG.org)  
205 PORTLAND STREET • BOSTON, MA 02114 • E-MAIL: [info@coadylaw.com](mailto:info@coadylaw.com)

# THE AMERICAN Legion MAGAZINE

**NATIONAL COMMANDER** Paul A. Morin  
**PUBLISHER** The American Legion  
**EDITOR** John Raughter  
**OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATOR** Patricia Marschand  
**MANAGING EDITOR** Jeff Stoffer  
**EDITORIAL ADMINISTRATOR** Brandy Ballenger  
**SENIOR EDITOR** Steve Brooks  
**ASSISTANT EDITORS** James V. Carroll  
Matt Grills  
Alan W. Dowd  
**CONTRIBUTING EDITOR** Holly K. Soria  
**ART DIRECTOR** Matt Everett  
**DESIGNER** King Dosssee  
**PRODUCTION DIRECTOR** Jon Reynolds  
**SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER** King Dosssee

### THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE COMMISSION

**CHAIRMAN** Dennis J. Henkemeyer Bagley, MN  
**VICE CHAIRMAN** Leo McKernan Monroe Township, NJ  
**COMMANDER'S REPRESENTATIVE** Terry D. Lewis Philadelphia  
**CONSULTANTS** James J. Charleston Hawthorn Woods, IL  
Robert A. Corrigan Bronx, NY  
**MEMBERS** Harold F. Arnold Statesboro, GA  
Sam Barney Lancaster, OH  
Phillip Boatner Clayton, OK  
Donald R. Conn South Bend, IN  
James W. Conway Charlestown, MA  
Philip B. Finley Colby, KS  
Dennis E. Fritz Columbus Junction, IA  
Charles E. Hartman Eau Claire, PA  
Theodore Hartmann Smithton, IL  
Roy L. Kirkham Minden, LA  
Bob Legan Russellville, AR  
Michael L. Montaney Ephrata, WA  
Silas M. Noel Frankfurt, KY  
Everett G. Shepard III Woodstock, CT  
George G. Sinopoli Fresno, CA  
James Smotherman Birmingham, AL  
Robert E. Vass Sr. Huntington, WV  
Frank C. Ward Greenville, SC  
Donald E. White Jr. Frederica, DE

### NEC LIAISON COMMITTEE

William W. Kile  
Chairman, Petersburg, WV  
Alfred Pirolli Philadelphia  
Charles Schmidt Hines, OR  
Joseph W. Young Chattanooga, TN

### ADVERTISING

**ADVERTISING DIRECTOR** Diane Andretti  
**ADVERTISING ASSISTANTS** Laura Edwards  
Amanda A. Harpenau  
**CONTACT** (317) 630-1282  
(317) 630-1283  
The American Legion Magazine  
P.O. Box 7068  
Indianapolis, IN 46207  
**ADVERTISING SALES** James G. Elliott Company, Inc.  
**NEW YORK** (212) 588-9200  
**DETROIT** (248) 530-0300  
**CHICAGO** (312) 236-4900  
**LOS ANGELES** (213) 624-0900

Copyright 2006 by The American Legion

The American Legion (ISSN 0886-1234) is published monthly by The American Legion, 5745 Lee Road, Indianapolis, IN 46216. Periodicals postage paid at Indianapolis, IN 46204 and additional mailing offices.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to The American Legion, Data Services, P.O. Box 1954, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

Canada Post International Publications Mail (Canadian Distribution) Sales Agreement No. 546321. Re-entered second-class mail matter at Manila Central Post office dated Dec. 22, 1991.



Printed in USA  
Member Audit Bureau of Circulations



*The Magazine for a Strong America*

**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS** 700 N. Pennsylvania St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

**AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE** P.O. Box 1055  
Indianapolis, IN 46206

**E-MAIL** magazine@legion.org  
(317) 630-1298

**TELEPHONE** www.legion.org

**WEB SITE**

**SUBSCRIPTIONS** Free with membership  
Non-members: \$15  
Foreign: \$21  
Post-sponsored and widows: \$6  
Single copies: \$3.50

**CIRCULATION** The American Legion  
Data Services  
P.O. Box 1954  
Indianapolis, IN 46206  
(317) 860-3111  
cs@legion.org

*For change of address, attach old address label, provide old and new addresses and membership card number.*

**MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN LEGION**

*Veterans who served at least one day of active military duty during wartime, or are serving now, are potentially eligible for membership in The American Legion. Members must have been honorably discharged or still serving honorably.*

**ELIGIBILITY** Aug 2, 1990 – current

**DATES OF MILITARY SERVICE** Dec. 20, 1989 – Jan. 31, 1990  
Aug. 24, 1982 – July 31, 1984  
Feb. 28, 1961 – May 7, 1975  
June 25, 1950 – Jan. 31, 1955  
Dec. 7, 1941 – Dec. 31, 1946  
April 6, 1917 – Nov 11, 1918  
*(Merchant Marines who served from Dec. 7, 1941 to Aug. 15, 1945, are also eligible.)*

**TO JOIN** Membership Division  
ia@legion.org  
(317) 630-1321  
www.legion.org

**PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION**

**VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION** (202) 861-2700  
var@legion.org

**FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK** (800) 504-4098  
familysupport@legion.org

**CITIZENS FLAG ALLIANCE** (317) 630-1384  
cfa@cfa-inc.org  
www.cfa-inc.org

**LEGION RIDERS** (317) 630-1265  
legionriders@legion.org  
www.americanlegionriders.net

**AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL** (317) 630-1249  
jquinlan@legion.org  
www.baseball.legion.org

**BOYS NATION** (317) 630-1207  
rengel@legion.org

**JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS** (317) 630-1249  
mbuss@legion.org

**NATIONAL ORATORICAL CONTEST** (317) 630-1249  
mbuss@legion.org

**SCHOLARSHIPS & CHARITABLE TRUSTS**

**AMERICAN LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP** (317) 630-1212  
rcaudell@legion.org

**AMERICAN LEGION ENDOWMENT FUND** (317) 736-8270

**CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION** (317) 630-1202  
www.cwf-inc.org

**NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND** (317) 630-1321  
ia@legion.org

**AMERICAN LEGION MERCHANDISE**

**ORDER PLACEMENT AND CATALOG REQUESTS** (888) 453-4466  
emblem.legion.org  
emblem@legion.org

**AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY**

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY** (317) 955-3845  
www.legion-aux.org

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION** (317) 630-1200  
www.sal.legion.org

**'Faith Through Service'**

In combat units, the presence of chaplains is of incalculable value. I served in Vietnam with the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). I commanded A Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry.

One morning our company was designated to lead the battalion's air assault into a potentially hot landing zone. As we headed for our helicopters, I glanced over to my left and saw our battalion chaplain offering Holy Communion to several soldiers who were dutifully on their knees. A second look confirmed that one of those receiving communion was my battalion commander, Lt. Col. E.C. "Shy" Meyer. Seeing him receive the bread and wine made me feel more confident that everything would turn out OK during our air assault. Sure enough, we had no casualties that day.

By the way, my battalion commander was made of the right stuff. He later wore four stars and became Army chief of staff.

– Tom Fincher, Chapin, S.C.



**'The Flags of Sept. 11'**

I read Debra Burlingame's article with great interest, but I was dismayed to see a mural of Saddam Hussein celebrating the attacks on the Twin Towers. How many times must we be reminded that there is absolutely no connection between Saddam, al-Qaeda and 9/11? Besides, weren't there celebrations throughout the Muslim world on Sept. 12, including our so-called allies Egypt, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia? Why didn't we invade them too? Why couldn't you instead show an image of Osama bin Laden thumbing his nose at us? Perhaps then we would recall the true enemy in the global war on terror.

– Ed Partridge, Salt Lake City

Debra Burlingame writes, "Our troops brought an end to the murderous regime of Saddam Hussein in three weeks." This statement is, for the most part, correct. However, she fails to discuss the events that have transpired, or not transpired, in Iraq during the three years

since we brought down Hussein's regime in three weeks. Her views on the events of this period would be interesting.

Ahmed Younis' "A Prescription for Peace" is well taken and timely. More of the national press should have the courage to print such articles as this.

When I was a boy, my father – a World War I charter member of The American Legion – told me if I ever found myself in the Army, when I got out I should join the Legion and keep up with matters of national concern. I followed his advice.

– John Sewell, Knoxville, Tenn.

**'A Prescription for Peace'**

In his article about American Muslims (September), Ahmed Younis does not address jihad or sharia law. My understanding is that Islam demands all laws of a country must be based on Islam, or sharia law. Our Constitution demands that our government never force us to follow any one particular religion. How can Islam and democracy possibly coexist?

– David Hayhurst, Heath, Ohio



### 'How History Will Judge Us'

Larry Schweikart's article made a lot of sense to this reader, after all the negative ones that have appeared in left-wing press. Let history judge the rightness of our war in Iraq in the ongoing establishment of a democracy in that country.

I liked his seven points, the first one being, "An embrace of sanctity of life that shapes everything from how we treat our prisoners to our unmatched concern for our own wounded and captured POWs." I also liked how he likened the killing of Abu al-Zarqawi to the killing of Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto in 1943. There were rough times ahead before we won the conflict against Japan, but we won. In like manner, there is little doubt we will win the conflict in Iraq.

– Lee Kenaga,  
Dearborn Heights, Mich.

### 'The War on Campus'

Susan Katz Keating's article is well-written and more balanced than most because it points out that protesters are not necessarily students of the schools involved. One day on campus at UC Berkeley in 1962, I finished lunch and walked to the nearby fountain. There were about 70 or 80 of us. I noticed three network flatbed trucks with TV cameras parked on the street beyond Sather Gate and asked several students why they were there. No one seemed to know.

About 12:30 p.m., several people approached carrying banners. They began yelling and jumping around. The cameras all swung into action. Filming lasted about two minutes and the demonstrators walked away. That night, network newscasts began, "Another protest on campus at UC Berkeley as demonstrators ..." I'm not aware that anyone asked whether some or

all of the actual protesters were students. I feel confident that no one asked why Berkeley's other 23,000 students were not there.

It is very easy to stage a demonstration when the media want something to broadcast.

– Robert Keese, Dunwoody, Ga.

Recent news reports say that a large number of military recruiters on high-school and college campuses were disciplined in 2005 for unethical behavior involving sexual abuse of potential recruits, so I was sure "The War on Campus" would provide reporting and analysis of the serious charges made against recruiters. Amazingly, Susan Katz Keating fails to even mention the alleged problems in the recruiting community. *The American Legion Magazine* should investigate and print the truth so those of us concerned about the future of our military will have the information needed to defend or help correct it.

In contrast to the lightweight and insignificant article by Keating is an outstanding article by Donald Lambro ("Financial Friendly Fire") on the broken pay system. He provides readers with background and pertinent examples, placing the blame on both the Department of Defense and Congress. My daily newspaper, which arrived with the September *Legion*, reported the huge increase in pay to chief executives of defense contractors since we invaded Iraq. The difference in paying our military casualties contrasted to the largesse collected by the executives of our nation's largest military contractors is an example of the administration's cynical attitude toward the "war on terrorism," which seems to involve sacrifice only by our servicemen and women.

– Ted Curtis, Orono, Maine

The University of Washington declined a memorial honoring "Pappy" Boyington because he was a Marine "who killed people," but five former UW students were awarded the Medal of Honor and honored. Did any of those recipients kill anyone when earning his medal? Hmm. Remember Sgt. Alvin York in the Great War, who received a Medal of Honor for killing and capturing many Germans and saving the lives of his own soldiers. York didn't attend the University of Washington, but what if he had?

I believe "Pappy" Boyington did an honorable service to this nation and should receive recognition at UW along with other honorees. Get with it, University of Washington.

– Rich Richardson, Norfolk, Neb.

### 'Moving the Needle'

Military.com is the best use of the Internet I've ever heard of. From recruitment to death benefits, men and women of our armed forces can find what they need – jobs, aid from VA offices, and ways to raise the morale of those in battle zones. Chris Michel should be given a medal for building this company.

– Edward Pulse, Jackson, Mich.

### 'One Veteran at a Time'

Thanks for the article about American Legion service officers (September). I am a county veterans service officer in Arkansas, one of a group that many people never hear about. There are, however, county service officers all across the United States. We assist veterans and widows in filing claims with VA. We also help them connect with service representatives, including The American Legion. In Arkansas we are appointed by the county judge, who in my county is also a veteran. We also





## HELPING ONE OF YOUR LOVED ONES COULD HELP MILLIONS OF OTHER PEOPLE'S LOVED ONES.

When you set up a Caregiver Gift Annuity with the AARP Foundation, you are both providing financially for a loved one and contributing to the rights and needs of older Americans.

Mail in this completed coupon form to receive a customized profile.  
For more information, call 1-800-775-6776 or visit [www.aarpgift.org](http://www.aarpgift.org)  
and click on "Create Your Plan."



### SINGLE LIFE

60	5.7%
70	6.5%
80	8.0%
90+	11.3%

### TWO LIFE

60/63	5.5%
70/73	6.0%
80/83	7.2%
90/93	9.8%

☐ I/we want to start a Caregiver Gift Annuity in the form of cash, real estate and/or appreciated stocks or bonds. Please provide an illustration based on the following information (\$10,000 minimum gift; 60 minimum age).

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date(s) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Office of Gift Planning, AARP Foundation  
601 E St. NW • Washington, DC 20049

CAR1

work closely with, and receive support and training from, the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs. I wish more people knew about us and the assistance we give veterans and widows in our state.

— Samuel High, Lonoke, Ark.

### VA health care for all

I've had a copy of the September issue for about six days and I'm still more than mad. How dare Ross Yingst write and you publish a letter stating that only service-connected health problems and retired veterans should receive VA health care.

Did not millions of us serve in the U.S. military with little thought to the danger of loss of life or debilitating injury? Many were drafted and even more volunteered. We were all young and served our country to the best of our ability. We went where ordered without question. Any one of us millions could have been killed or returned home missing arms, legs or other body parts. Just because we didn't, Yingst implies support of the phasing out of health care for all veterans.

Everyone who has been drafted or who has joined the military has served a mandatory six-year enlistment. No one should have to serve 20 or 30 years just to receive military benefits when the years served came at the same time civilians are going to college, marrying, having babies and starting careers. Everyone who serves in the military gives up the prime of their lives for their country. All veterans should receive VA health care, period!

— Steven A. Erikson, Hickory, N.C.

If we all thought like Ross Yingst, we would all move to one central location in this wonderful free country of ours to be near the best VA facility. Oh, and by the way, not all vets — just a certain few. Every law-abiding U.S. citizen has the right to live in or move to any state, county or city they choose, and if that person happens to be a veteran, and he or she gets sick and needs help, our government has an obligation to help, no matter where he or she lives.

— K. Van Dine, Grandville, Mich.

### 'Deeds, Not Words'

Your story regarding Vernon Baker and other black soldiers who received the Medal of Honor 50 years after the fact (August) prompted me to write about 1st Lt. John R. Fox. Though born in Cincinnati, he is buried here in Whitman, Mass. My wife's grandmother is buried at Colbrook Cemetery in Whitman, and several times a year we visit her grave. Right next to her lot is Fox. *The Brockton Enterprise* ran an article on him and his family when he received the Medal of Honor (posthumously in 1997 for his service during World War II). We consider Fox a local boy and are also very proud of him.

— Albert W. Montagano, Brockton, Mass.

In the fall of 2000, I looked for something special to tell our students at Lincoln High School in Ellwood City, Pa., as part of my Veterans Day speech. That "something special" was Vernon Baker and the Buffalo Soldiers. They were at their annual conference in Pittsburgh that fall.

My wife and I traveled to their hotel, where we looked through the display rooms while waiting for Baker to return from a parade. A large picture of a sign on a street in Rome caught our eyes. It read, "Blacks are not permitted beyond this point." It was sad to us that many soldiers of the 92nd died in order to free Rome and then were refused entrance to some of its streets. It was a sign of the times.

Baker arrived and was very congenial to my wife and me. I asked if he would give me a quote I could pass on to our students at Lincoln. He told me to tell them, "Treat everyone the way they would want to be treated." I did.

It was my pleasure to meet a recipient of the Medal of Honor, even though the medal came 52 years late.

— George Reese, Ellwood City, Pa.

### American Legacy Run

I had the honor of riding from Indianapolis to the 88th National Convention in Salt Lake City with National Commander Tom Bock and National Adjutant Robert Spanogle to raise money for the American Legacy Scholarship Fund. When my wife joined us at Aurora, Colo., Bock's wife, Elaine, made her feel welcome on the remaining legs of the trip. I hope this becomes a yearly event, as things like this will change the face of The American Legion. I am not an American Legion Rider, but I feel privileged to have joined them in raising so much money for the children of those who paid the ultimate price for our freedoms.

— Dave Adam, Minneapolis

### THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE WELCOMES YOUR OPINIONS

Include your hometown and a daytime phone number for verification. All letters published are subject to editing. Due to the volume of mail received, not every letter can be acknowledged.

*The American Legion Magazine*, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206 • [magazine@legion.org](mailto:magazine@legion.org)



# U.S. GOV'T GOLD RELEASE

AMERICA'S GOLD AUTHORITY.

**GOLD TOPS \$725 PER OZ. 2006  
EXPERTS STILL PREDICT \$2,000 PER OZ.**

WEIGHT AND PURITY FULLY BACKED BY THE U.S. GOV'T  
LEGAL TENDER GOLD COINS MINTED BY THE U.S. MINT  
LIMITED RELEASE AND AVAILABILITY



## 2005 U.S. GOLD COINS FINAL RELEASE

The United States Rare Coin and Bullion Reserve Vault Facility today announces the final release of 5,000 U.S. Gov't Issued Gold Coins previously held in The West Point Depository/U.S. Mint. For the first time in recent history, U.S. citizens will be able to buy 2005 Gov't Issued \$5 Gold Coins at an incredible no mark-up price of only \$73.00 each. An amazing price because these U.S. Gov't Issued Gold Coins are completely free of dealer mark-up. That's correct, our cost. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to buy U.S. Gov't Issued Gold Coins at cost. The Gold market in May 2006 hit a new high of over \$725 per ounce and is predicted by experts to have the explosive upside potential of reaching up to \$2,000 an ounce. A limit of ten U.S. Gov't Issued Gold Coins per customer will be strictly adhered to. Orders that are not immediately reserved with our order center could be subject to cancellation and your checks returned uncashed. Good luck. We hope that everyone will have a chance to purchase this special U.S. Gov't Issued Gold at cost. Order immediately to avoid disappointment. 2006 coins will be shipped if over-sold. Call Toll-Free 1-800-360-8151.

## GOLD MARKET EXPLODES

If you had \$50,000 in the bank and you transferred it into Gold at today's prices, you would now have an opportunity to gain as much as 5 times its value—a quarter of a million dollars. That's because when you convert money to Gold, you haven't spent your money, but have transferred its value from a declining paper currency to a precious metal that is rising in both market and numismatic value. Gold protects your money in today's very volatile market. Being at war with terrorists, the war to liberate Iraq, 7.1 million unemployed Americans, rampant corporate fraud and the inability to balance the budget has caused an insurmountable debt that tops \$8.3 trillion. It is now harder than ever to obtain and maintain financial security. This is why now is the time to move paper assets into Gold. Catastrophic debt and floundering economies have proven to be the perfect breeding ground that sends Gold through the roof. With prices reaching as high as \$725 per ounce in May 2006, it is crucial that individuals move now because as soon as tomorrow, Gold could start its predicted steep rise to \$2,000 per ounce. Do not miss out on this opportunity.

## REASONS TO BUY GOLD NOW

**\$50,000 in U.S. Gov't Gold Coins could be worth up to \$250,000 in the future.**

**Gold has outperformed S&P 500 for the past five years.**

**Smart individuals are moving 10-20% of their assets into U.S. Gov't Gold Coins.**

**Now is the best time to take your money out of the bank and put it into U.S. Gov't Gold Coins in your same bank's safe deposit box.**

**With the National Debt at \$8.3 trillion and rising, Gold has an upside potential that has not been seen since the 1980's.**

**Due to very limited supply, offer may be withdrawn at any time.**

**Good luck. We hope that everyone will have a chance to buy gold at this current low price.**

**Special arrangements can be made for Gold orders over \$50,000.**



2005 Gold American Eagle

# BUY NOW

- 1 - 2005 Gov't Issue Gold Coin \$ 73.00
- 5 - 2005 Gov't Issue Gold Coins \$365.00
- 10 - 2005 Gov't Issue Gold Coins \$730.00

MINIMUM ORDER 5 GOLD COINS. SPECIAL AT-COST OFFER LIMITED TO PURCHASES OF \$730.00 OR LESS PLUS SHIPPING AND INSURANCE.

**VAULT FACILITY NUMBER: AL11-73**

## CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-360-8151

MASTERCARD • VISA • AMEX • DISCOVER • CHECK

BEGINNING TODAY, TELEPHONE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE BASIS ACCORDING TO THE TIME AND DATE OF THE ORDER

**UNITED STATES**  
RARE COIN & BULLION RESERVE  
Distributor of Government Gold. Not Affiliated With the U.S. Government.

# America's future rests with youth

When World War I veterans united in 1919 to found The American Legion, they didn't do so with veterans alone in mind. They believed it was the Legion's responsibility, under its constitution, to lobby for a strong national defense, to "foster and perpetuate a 100-percent Americanism," and to provide opportunities for a brighter future for our nation's children and youth.

That final pillar of The American Legion – children and youth – hits close to home. I am the father of six children who matter more to me than just about anything else. I believe giving children opportunities to succeed – especially those children who might not have those opportunities otherwise – is one of the best ways to ensure the principles that make America great today will remain in place for generations to come.

Through our Americanism and Children & Youth programs, the Legion offers opportunities to foster leadership in young people. They can be challenged athletically through American Legion Baseball and Shooting Sports, or intellectually through Boys Nation and the National Oratorical Contest. Our support for Boy Scouts of America helps provide Scouting opportunities for 64,000 young men each year.

The American Legion also provides other nonprofit organizations with the means to educate the public about the needs of U.S. children. Since 1954, the Child Welfare Foundation has awarded more than \$8 million in grants to aid organizations that contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children. Last year the Child Welfare Foundation gave \$611,381 in grants to 21 organizations, including:

- The Foundation for Children With Cancer of St. Louis, which used its \$15,000 grant to produce kits for children's hospitals used in a recovery program designed for pediatric cancer patients.
- The National Craniofacial Association of Chattanooga, Tenn., which used its \$33,090 grant to produce informational materials to ensure that educators and parents have the necessary tools to improve educational results of their elementary-aged children with craniofacial deformities.
- The National Court-Appointed Special Advocate Association of Seattle, which used its grant to produce an updated edition of CASA's Volunteer Training Tool Kit to help equip and train more than 50,000 volunteers throughout the United States who help abused children find their way to safe, permanent homes.

It's through your generosity that organizations such as these are able to provide valuable programs for America's youth.

Along with my unwavering resolve to lobby Congress for mandatory funding and better access for VA health care, along with my undying support for our troops now serving in harm's way, along with opposition to those who profit from attacking American values in court, and along with my commitment to protecting our flag, I want to emphasize the importance of giving our children opportunities those World War I veterans could only have dreamed about.

Join me in a renewed dedication to our youth programs this year. Coach baseball or share your war experiences in a classroom. Raise money for your favorite program. Do something. Legionnaires are uniquely capable of building a better future for all generations.

*Paul A. Morin*



National Commander  
Paul A. Morin

## MEMORANDA

**SALUTE OUR HEROES:** The American Legion and *The New York Times* Job Market team up again Nov. 6, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at New York City's Jacob K. Javits Center for the "Salute Our Heroes" Veterans Job Fair & Career Expo. Dozens of employers will be on hand to conduct interviews and collect applications from veterans seeking new careers. Go online for more information, to post a resumé or to pre-register.

[www.nytimes.com/saluteourheroes](http://www.nytimes.com/saluteourheroes)

**SOUND OFF:** If your post is conducting an innovative program that helps local youth, *The American Legion Magazine* and *Dispatch* want to know about it for possible publication. Send details and contact information:

**Steve Brooks, Senior Editor**  
**American Legion Magazine**  
**P.O. Box 1055**

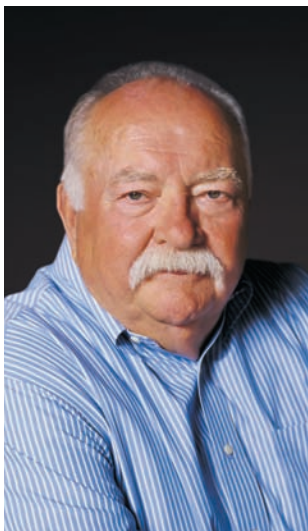
**Indianapolis, IN 46206**

**[sbrooks@legion.org](mailto:sbrooks@legion.org)**

**CHILD WELFARE:** The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation provides grants to help organizations that contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children. Go online to donate or learn more about CWF.

**[www.cwf-inc.org](http://www.cwf-inc.org)**





# Do You Have Diabetes? Are You on Medicare?

If you answered "Yes" to both questions,  
**The Cost of Your Diabetes  
Testing Supplies May Be Covered!\***

*Wilford Brimley – Actor & Marine Taking Charge of His Diabetes*

## Know the Facts About Medicare Coverage for Individuals with Diabetes.

Liberty Medical is the nation's leader in home delivery of diabetes testing supplies. We are a Medicare participating provider. You could be eligible for our complete home delivery program of diabetes testing supplies, and the cost may be covered by Medicare.\* With many of the new Medicare Prescription drug plans, you can also have Liberty deliver prescriptions to your home.

**No Up-front Costs.\*** You pay no money up front when you order diabetes testing supplies from Liberty. With qualified supplemental insurance, you may owe nothing at all.

**No Claim Forms to Fill Out.** We will bill Medicare and your supplemental insurance company for you.

**No Charge for Shipping.** Your order will be delivered to your home with no charge for shipping. You won't have to stand in pharmacy lines or go out in bad weather.

**Call Liberty Today To Learn If You Are Eligible!**

**Toll-Free: 1-800-921-0901**



\*Co-payments and deductibles apply.

The Liberty Family of Companies is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

# Lift restrictions on nuclear aid to India



## SUPPORT

**Rep. Dana Rohrabacher,  
R-Calif.**

■ Rohrabacher is a member  
of the House International  
Relations Committee.



## OPPOSE

**Rep. Diane Watson,  
D-Calif.**

■ Watson is a member  
of the House International  
Relations Committee.

U.S.-India relations got off to a bad start shortly after India gained independence from Great Britain and basically sided with Russia in the Cold War. Well, the Cold War is over, and we should be making up for lost time, which is exactly what the United States and India Nuclear Cooperation bill is all about.

This is dramatically in the interests of both our countries. Economically, a prosperous, democratic India with an expanding middle class is a dream market for U.S. entrepreneurs, manufacturers and, yes, technologists. This agreement is designed to provide India the energy it needs to achieve its economic goals in a way that will not damage the U.S. or other Western democracies' economies by fencing off and consuming energy resources or using high-pollution energy resources of their own.

The high-temperature gas reactor demonstrates that new nuclear alternatives and other types of nuclear power systems offer a safe method of providing India the energy it needs to raise the standard of living of its people. This legislation is pro-prosperity and pro-energy. If we are vigilant, it will not be contrary to the interests of the nonproliferation movement. But it is up to us to work with India to make sure that nonproliferation remains a high priority for our countries, both of us together.

Finally, let me note that we need to have strong relationships with India, Japan and the former Soviet Union if we are to have peace in this world. Danger looms. The People's Republic of China continues to oppress its people. China is also rapidly building its military and consuming more and more of the world's natural resources. The hope is that the communist giant will someday democratize. Until then, we must forge alliances with sister democracies like India in order to preserve the balance and peace of the world.

The United States has few, if any, better friends than India. I strongly feel that our countries are destined to be great partners as we seek to meet the challenges of the 21st century. One of these challenges is the need to develop new sources of energy. The Indian economy is growing by leaps and bounds, offering new opportunities not only for India itself, but for India's partners. India will need to develop tens of thousands of megawatts of new power

capacity in the next few years to meet this need and lift India's poorest from poverty.

But the United States and India face another 21st-century challenge we must meet together, and that is the challenge of nuclear proliferation – particularly the threat of nuclear weapons in the hands of extremist governments and terrorists.

India is, and has been, a trusted partner in meeting this challenge. I do not fear India with nuclear power. I do fear a world where both India and the United States must face a nuclear Iran or a nuclear North Korea. Our key tool for constraining the nuclear designs of Iran and North Korea has been the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. But I fear the United States and India Nuclear Cooperation bill will damage the NPT to the point that we make it harder to stop the Iranian and North Korean nuclear programs.

The U.S.-India partnership is too strong to be harmed by one piece of legislation. I believe that if we continue working with India we will find ways to address our mutual security concerns and energy needs. This legislation fails to meet either challenge.

Furthermore, I have concerns about our own constitutional processes here in the United States. Acceptance or rejection of any arrangement with India must include a full role for Congress.

## THE HEART OF THE ISSUE

***The U.S.-India Peaceful Nuclear  
Cooperation Act lifts restrictions  
on nuclear aid to India.  
Critics say the deal encourages  
nuclear proliferation.***

## CONTACT YOUR LEADERS

The Honorable (name), U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510 • Phone: (202) 224-3121

The Honorable (name), U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515 • Phone: (202) 225-3121



INTRODUCING OUR OFFICIAL ARMY AND NAVY

# MILITARY CAREER SERVICE RINGS

HANDCRAFTED IN AMERICA FEATURING YOUR SERVICE AND CAREER EMBLEMS

We are proud to introduce our new, exclusive series of Army and Navy Military Career Service Rings, crafted in Sterling Silver and detailed with 22 Karat Antiqued Gold.

- ★ **U.S. Army or U.S. Navy** in bold lettering, surrounds brilliant Service Capstone.  
(Army Black, Navy Sapphire Blue)
- ★ **Your Service Emblem** is featured on one side, and career emblem on the other.  
(See choices at right and below)
- ★ **Inside band** is solid and smooth for maximum comfort. Our rings are never hollowed out.
- ★ **Band engraved** with your initials and years of service.
- ★ **Thank You** priced at just \$199\*, with affordable payment plan available.



Army Ring shown with "Army Service" emblem.



Navy Ring shown with "Navy Service" emblem.



★★★★  
**SATISFACTION GUARANTEED**  
or return for replacement  
or refund within 30 days.  
★★★★



**ORDER BY NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> TO GUARANTEE CHRISTMAS DELIVERY.**

**CALL TOLL FREE TO ORDER: 1-800-255-3048**

Monday - Friday from 9am - 5pm EST Have Credit card and ring size ready when ordering.

## ORDER FORM

**Or, Mail to:** Veterans Commemoratives™ Military Career Service Rings, Two Radnor Corporate Center, Suite 120, Radnor, PA 19087-4599

☐ **YES.** I wish to order the following exclusive Military Career Service Ring, personalized with my initials and year dates of service.  
(check choices)

**Service:** ☐ Army or ☐ Navy **Style:** ☐ Man's or ☐ Lady's

**Career Choice:** (A1-A12 OR N1-N14), see pictures above: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ring Size:** \_\_\_\_\_ (if known, a ring size will be sent to assure fit prior to shipment.)

**Initials (3):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Service Yrs:** \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

**I Need Send No Money Now.**

I will be billed in four monthly installments of \$49.75\* each with the first payment due prior to shipment. My satisfaction is completely guaranteed. or I may return my ring within 30 days for replacement or refund.

**Shipping Address:** (We CANNOT ship to P.O. Boxes) Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

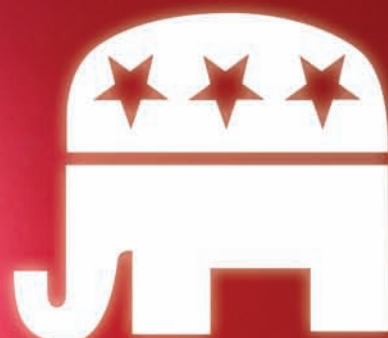
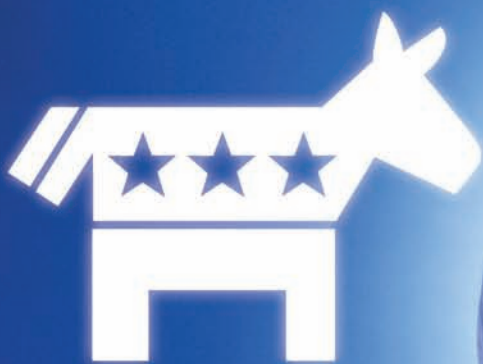
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\* Price guaranteed for only 30 days, because of increasing cost of silver and gold.

\* Plus \$9.95 for engraving, shipping, and handling. PA residents add 6% state sales tax

**VISIT VETERANS COMMEMORATIVES™ ONLINE AT WWW.VETCOM.COM**





# Who Should Vets Support?

As Americans head to voting booths this week, veterans have an opportunity to speak in a unified voice about the issues that matter most to those who have served: mandatory funding for an overburdened VA health-care system, repeal of the disabled veterans tax, flag protection and the global war on terrorism. Just as important are border security and a renewed commitment to improved military pay, health care and education benefits. Democrats and Republicans alike claim theirs is the best agenda for veterans. *The American Legion Magazine* asked two prominent senators, Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton and Republican Larry Craig, to make the cases for their respective parties. Their commentaries appear on Pages 16-22.



# Pride★USA

## Original A-2 Cowhide Pilot's Jacket

**\$169.**  
reg. sizes



U.S. military specs. include knitted cuffs and waistband, epaulets, snap front pockets and windflap over zipper. Cowhide Colors: Black, Dark Brown. Available in Official U.S.A.F. Seal Brown goatskin for \$224.99 Compare at \$425.



## Original G-1 Navy Flight Jacket

**\$249.**  
reg. sizes



Premium top grain leather. Original 1944 pattern. This is the official U.S. Navy flight jacket. Contoured pocket flaps. Under arm gussets and bi-swing back. Plush, synthetic mouton collar. Color: Brown. Compare at \$425.



## Aviation gear made by Americans for Americans

## Stearman Style Vest

**\$79.** reg. sizes

Top-grain cowhide. Cotton lining and knitted waistband. Front zipper with snap closures. One inside and two side entry pockets. Colors: Black, Brown. Some vests are imported. Compare at \$185.



## B-3 Sheepskin Jacket

**\$329.**  
reg. sizes

B-3 Sheepskin Jacket. Made from superior American shearling pelts chosen for luxurious thickness, texture, and unsurpassed warmth. Colors: Black, Brown. Compare at \$499.



## B-15 Flight Jacket

**\$269.**  
reg. sizes

Premium, top grain cowhide. Smooth nylon satin lining with removable 3M Thinsulate® lining. Detachable lamb fur collar with full leather under collar. Colors: Black, Brown. Compare at \$475.



## Original B-7 Cowhide Pilot's Jacket

**\$269.**  
reg. sizes

B-7 Flight Jacket. Soft and supple, premium top grain cowhide. Oversized jacket features side and top entry pockets. A truly outstanding design in a military style jacket. Colors: Black, Brown. Compare at \$450.



## Veteran's Liquidators

A DIVISION OF EXCELLED SHEEPSKIN & LEATHER COAT CORP.

**FREE  
Shipping**

Our garments come in regular, tall, big & big/tall sizes

You can also send a check or money order to VETERAN'S LIQUIDATORS, 1700 Burlington Ave., Kewanee, IL 61443-3278

- ★ All major credit cards accepted
- ★ 3-pay installment plan available
- ★ Add sales tax (NY & IL only)

**800-466-6663**

7 AM - 7PM CST

Media  
Code  
#0601

Visit us online at [www.leathercoatsetc.com](http://www.leathercoatsetc.com) for special offers

# WHY VETERANS SHOULD ELECT DEMOCRATS



**BY U.S. SEN.  
HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON**

In 1944, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the original GI Bill of Rights into law, he called it an “emphatic notice to the men and women of our Armed Forces that the American people do not intend to let them down.” It was an important step forward for veterans and our country, and The American Legion played a key role in making it happen.

President Roosevelt’s message is as important today as it was then. The five-year anniversary of the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, reminded us that once again our men and women in uniform have been called to defend America – now against the grave and continuing threat posed by terrorists and their evil ideology.

What is required is that we marshal our every resource to dispose of any danger – and that must include marshaling our values. We have a duty to honor veterans, something I take very seriously as senator, as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and as an American. I think of all the veterans I have met during my time in the Senate and as first lady. I think of the brave and patriotic members of our armed forces who I have met in Iraq, Afghanistan and back home in New York. Their service is truly inspiring.

The obligation of all Americans to serve those who have served our country ought to be something that unites Congress, crosses party lines and erases any ideological divide. These men and women took on great risk and sacrifice to protect our nation. Doing right by them is not a Democratic issue or a Republican issue. It is a matter of America’s values and our moral duty.

Sadly, this kind of bipartisanship, even in matters concerning our nation’s veterans, has been the exception to the rule – and the decisions being made in Washington ought to give veterans pause, no matter their political affiliation.

In 2003, House Republicans voted to cut veterans benefits and health care by \$28 billion over 10 years. Last summer, the Bush administration acknowledged a \$2.7-billion shortfall in veterans health-care funding. And just this year, the

president put forward a budget that would cut hospital and medical care for veterans by \$2 billion over the next several years. In fact, according to Disabled American Veterans, President Bush’s budget “has come up short of what’s needed to honor America’s commitment to veterans.”

This is, unfortunately, a pattern – one that cuts against our deeply held American values and patriotism. Democrats offer a chance to put us back on track and put our government’s priorities in line with our values. If given the chance, I have no doubt that Democrats in Congress will work every day to honor the service and sacrifice of America’s veterans, because that is what we’ve been doing, often swimming against the tide, standing up for veterans and the members of our armed forces.

Democrats in Congress have been sounding the drumbeat to uphold, enhance and guarantee quality health care at the Department of Veterans Affairs. We have stood up for greater funding for veterans health care, for keeping VA facilities open, and for making VA health-care funding a guaranteed – and not discretionary – budget item. That’s really important, and something for which Democrats have long been fighting. For too long, VA funding has been subject to whims of politics and business as usual in Washington. VA funding is more than a line on a budget to be decreased or used for partisan wrangling; VA funding is an obligation, plain and simple. That’s why I joined many of my Democratic colleagues in supporting the Fulfilling Our Duty to America’s Veterans Act of 2005, which provides for guaranteed VA health-care funding. And Democrats have stood united against the Bush administration’s proposed increase in co-pays for veterans’ prescription drugs and against policies that leave many waiting a year or more for treatment.

Democrats also have led the effort to reform concurrent receipt. As it stands now, the law deals a blow to our disabled veterans by not allowing them to receive the retirement benefits to which they are entitled. I was a proud co-sponsor of the Retired Pay Restoration Act of 2005. This bipartisan bill would provide fair retirement benefits to America’s disabled veterans by fixing a more-than-a-century-old law that prevents disabled veterans from receiving both retirement and disability pay at the same time. Our bill would end the ban on concurrent receipt for many disabled veterans. But it is an uphill battle. In 2003, the Bush administration threatened to veto the entire defense authorization bill – including funding for our troops – if Congress eliminated this “disabled veterans tax.” (In fact, in that same bill, the Bush administration



New first-ever \$50 Gold Buffalo coin released to the public:

# The Buffalo Roams Again!



**U.S. Government  
Guaranteed:**

These are the only 24K pure gold coins whose purity and gold content are fully guaranteed by the U.S. Government.

**TOLL FREE:  
1-800-585-9240**

Extension 7536

**Omega Collectibles, Inc.**

Eagan, MN • A Division of New York Mint

## The beloved American Buffalo design makes its debut on the new special-release \$50 gold coin from the U.S. Mint

For the first time ever, Omega Collectibles is releasing to the public the brand new 2006 \$50 Gold American Buffalo coin. This historic first-year issue minted in 99.99% (.9999) fine gold—the purest gold of any legal-tender coin—will **not** be offered directly to the public from the U.S. Mint. Now for a limited time, these historic Gem Brilliant Uncirculated coins will be made available to you through this special offer from Omega Collectibles.

Nicknamed “Buffalo” for the rugged design of an American bison, this extremely popular design has stood the test of time since it was first released in 1913 on the “Buffalo” Nickel. Based upon this classic design and renowned for its “Wild West” artistry including an American Indian on the front, this hefty legal-tender \$50 Gold Buffalo coin captures America’s spirit of adventure in one full ounce of 24 karat pure gold.

1 coin for \$795 ea.  
3 coins for \$749 ea.  
5 coins for \$695 ea.

**HURRY!**  
CALL TODAY

**As Low As \$695**

Because quantities are limited for this special-release coin, we are accepting orders on a strict first-come, first-served basis. Call today to reserve your coins. Prices and availability subject to change. Your satisfaction is assured by our 30-day money-back guarantee. Sold-out orders will be promptly refunded.

©2006 New York Mint, Ltd. Not affiliated with the U.S. Government.

opposed ending the “widow’s tax,” which cuts benefits to the survivors of military retirees age 62 and older.)

There are so many ways we can and should honor our veterans – and do so while uniting us instead of dividing us. More than 1.5 million veterans have been awarded the Purple Heart. In a simple but significant act to recognize these veterans, I supported an initiative in 2002 to establish the Purple Heart stamp. In May 2003, I was pleased to attend the ceremony to launch the first issue of the stamp in Newburgh, N.Y., the site where Gen. George Washington created the medal as the Badge of Military Merit on Aug. 7, 1782. I also joined Sen. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska – a Republican and Purple Heart recipient – in introducing a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Purple Heart Recognition Day.

In honor of those who fought and risked their lives in the defense of freedom and democracy on the Korean peninsula, I recently reintroduced bipartisan legislation to include National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day among the days when Americans should make a special effort to display the American flag. Last year I supported bipartisan legislation that would grant a federal charter to the Korean War Veterans Association, and I am working with my colleagues and veterans organizations to create a Korea Defense Service Medal and a Cold War Victory Medal.

We also honor our veterans by meeting our obligations to the troops who currently serve – our future veterans. Our servicemen and women must have the basic necessary gear, like body armor and up-armored vehicles, which unfortunately are often in short supply. Soldiers have been wrongly asked to reimburse the military for gear damaged in combat and meals received while recovering at military medical centers. Wounded soldiers have had problems receiving their pay.

I recently conducted a military families forum with Rep. Steve Israel on Long Island, where we heard heart-wrenching stories of equipment shortages and returning servicemembers tangled in red tape. One local American Legion post collected money to send a welder to a unit serving in Iraq, and a Gold Star Mother collected donations to alleviate a shortage of bandages for troops there. We heard about the needs of soldiers returning home with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injuries. That’s why I introduced legislation called “Heroes at Home,” to assist our

returning servicemembers and their families; it has been approved unanimously by the Senate. House and Senate Democrats are leading the charge to make sure our troops and their families have the support they need.

Democrats in the House of Representatives also have been working to support our troops. In April 2005, my Democratic colleagues there introduced a GI Bill of Rights for the 21st Century, which is in keeping with the long and honorable tradition of support for our veterans exemplified by President Roosevelt’s statement all those years ago.

This new GI Bill of Rights would build on all the progress we have made, guaranteeing our troops, our veterans and their families access to education, health care and opportunities in their local communities upon departing military service. It’s one example of all we can achieve if we put our priorities where our history and values lie. It’s time for a new direction in Congress, and I believe it must be Democrats who lead the way.

***“It’s time for a new direction  
in Congress, and I believe  
it must be Democrats  
who lead the way.”***

When President Roosevelt signed the GI Bill in 1944, he did so because it was the right thing to do for our veterans and for our country. It sent a message – not only in words but in deeds –

that America’s strength lies in the might of our armed forces, the patriotism of the American people, and the ideas and principles that bind us together as a nation.

Today, America confronts new dangers, but we must confront these dangers in accordance with our long-held values. Our troops are serving bravely in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere. We are still coming to grips with the realities of new threats posed by terrorism and extremism in the post-9/11 world. What has been clear every day since Sept. 11, 2001, is that we need to redouble our commitment to all who have worn and all who wear our nation’s uniform. What is required is a new direction, one that recognizes that the best way to defend America is to honor those who have stood on the front lines in our defense.

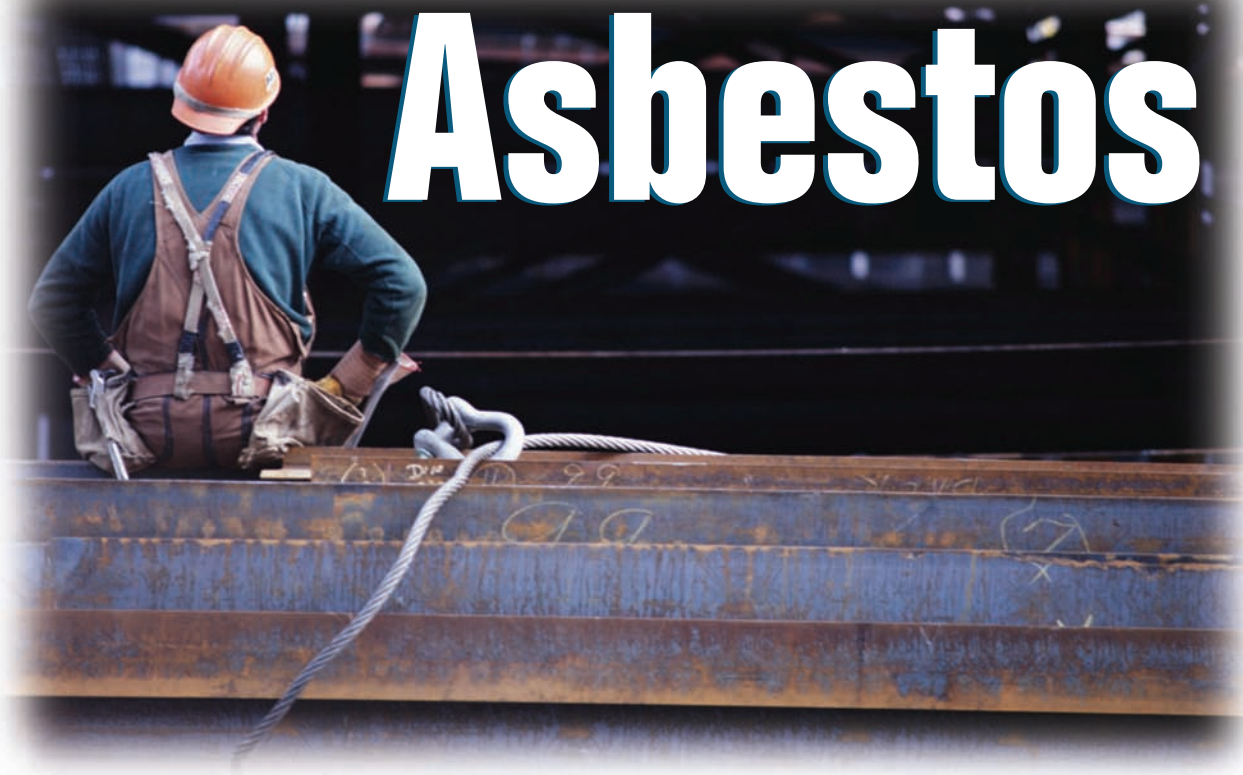
Democrats stand ready to do all that is necessary to secure our nation, protect our troops and serve our veterans – to unite us behind the cause of defending freedom, democracy and the values that make America strong. To paraphrase President Roosevelt, who understood deeply our nation’s duty to the men and women who have served America: we will not let you down. 🌿

*U.S. Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., serves on the Senate Armed Services Committee.*



If you have contracted **MESOTHELIOMA**  
or **LUNG CANCER** due to exposure to

# Asbestos



You may be eligible to be compensated for your injuries by bringing a lawsuit against the asbestos industry.

At Weitz & Luxenberg we maintain an extensive practice in representing the interests of asbestos victims. In fact, we represent **thousands** of victims, from all across the United States, and were instrumental in upholding the constitutionality of asbestos litigation through the landmark **Brooklyn Navy Yard** and **Consolidated Powerhouse** trials, resulting in combined

group verdicts of **\$166 million**.

We maintain a staff of over **50** attorneys and **250** support personnel all primed to work closely with you to achieve **maximum results**. This may explain why for the last decade, a majority of all asbestos cases on the New York City trial docket were handled by Weitz & Luxenberg.

*For further information, and a free informational booklet, call the law firm of Weitz & Luxenberg today.*

## **Weitz & Luxenberg, P.C.**

**L A W   O F F I C E S**

*Setting the standard in product liability litigation*

180 Maiden Lane • New York, NY 10038

**1(800)476-6070**

**[www.weitzlux.com](http://www.weitzlux.com)**

Future verdicts or settlements cannot be predicted from prior results.

The statute of limitations of your respective state will help determine your ability to file a claim.

# WHY VETERANS SHOULD ELECT REPUBLICANS



**BY U.S. SEN.  
LARRY CRAIG**

Like members of The American Legion, Republicans as a group believe in words like “duty,” “honor” and “country.” We believe in the values espoused by Boy Scouts of America, and we often find ourselves at odds with the legal theories put forward by the American Civil Liberties Union. We love the flag, freedom, and traditional American family values. We love free markets, and we believe in helping others when they are going through tough times. We believe in lending a hand up, but we recognize that too much help can damage people by making them dependent on handouts.

Republicans also believe that some things are worth fighting for. It is not that Republicans want war. We yearn for peace. But we know that all too often freedom comes at a heavy price.

In discussing the Republican political philosophy, especially as it applies to our fighting men and women, I am reminded of the words of the great football coach Vince Lombardi: “I don’t say these things because I believe in the ‘brute’ nature of man or that men must be brutalized to be combative. I believe in God, and I believe in human decency. But I firmly believe that any man’s finest hour – his greatest fulfillment to all he holds dear – is that moment when he has to work his heart out in a good cause and he’s exhausted on the field of battle – victorious.”

Lombardi was speaking of football, but his words capture the deep feelings of respect Republicans have toward all who have worn the uniform and borne the heavy burden of battle.

Those Republican values – that respect for hard work, love of country, duty to our fellow men and women, respect for others and belief in God – are not just campaign slogans or part of a special election-year “outreach” program. They form the core philosophy of Republicans across the country.

As Republicans, we believe the world is a better place because America is a special land and a beacon of hope in an unstable world. We believe, as Ronald Reagan said, that through strength comes peace. It’s been that way from the beginning.

In 1864, Republican President Abraham Lincoln

ran for his second term as president of the United States. Running against him was Democrat George McClellan, the former Union general who had been saddled with the Democrats’ pacifist party platform. That platform rang hollow with most military men because it called the Civil War “four years of failure” and said the only way out was for “immediate efforts be made for a cessation of hostilities.” While McClellan had been highly popular among the troops, soldiers in the field gave Lincoln 119,754 votes to 34,291 for McClellan – a 3-1 advantage.

Funny how so little has changed.

In 2000, surveys found that members of the military supported President Bush by a margin of 2-1. During the last election cycle, an *Army Times* survey found that members of the military supported President Bush over John Kerry by a margin of 4-1. I suspect many veterans over the past six years have followed similar voting patterns.

I believe veterans and active-duty servicemembers alike have favored Republicans because we recognize that weakness in war only emboldens the enemy. Those who have worn the uniform of their nation know that Republicans have always favored those who served.

The federal budget for veterans is a case in point.

In 2000, the last year President Clinton was in office, the budget for the Department of Veterans Affairs was approximately \$48 billion. Under President Bush’s leadership, backed by Republican leaders in the House and Senate, next year’s VA budget will be near \$80 billion, and at present rates of growth, VA spending will approach \$100 billion a year by the time President Bush leaves office.

Next year’s VA budget includes \$3.5 billion more for health care (11 percent more than last year), \$457 million for ongoing construction needs, and a mandatory spending increase of \$5.4 billion (14.5 percent more) for a variety of payments to veterans: disability compensation, pension payments, survivor payments, education payments, vocational rehabilitation and loan guaranties.

While inflation has been growing at less than 3 percent a year since 2001, VA’s overall budget has increased by nearly 65 percent. Those increases have come at a time when the overall number of veterans remains relatively steady.

The budget numbers are sobering, but the Republicans’ commitment is real, and I believe that money has, in large measure, been well spent.

As many of you know, for decades VA health care was the choice of last resort. *BusinessWeek* recently summed it up this way: “The movies ‘Coming Home’ (1978), ‘Born on the Fourth of July’ (1989),





# We found our most important watch in a soldier's pocket



It's the summer of 1944 and a weathered U.S. sergeant is walking in Rome only days after the Allied Liberation. There is a joyous mood in the streets and this tough soldier wants to remember this day. He's only weeks away from returning home. He finds an interesting timepiece in a store just off the Via Veneto and he decides to splurge a little on this memento. He loved the way it felt in his hand, and the complex movement inside the case intrigued him. He really liked the hunter's back that opened to a secret compartment. He thought that he could squeeze a picture of his wife and new daughter in the case back. He wrote home that now he could count the hours until he returned to the States. This watch went on to survive some

harrowing flights in a B-24 bomber and somehow made it back to the U.S. Besides the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star, my father cherished this watch because it was a reminder of the best part of the war for any soldier—the homecoming.

He nicknamed the watch *Ritorno* for homecoming, and the rare heirloom is now valued at \$42,000 according to *The Complete Guide to Watches*. But to our family, it is just a reminder that nothing is more beautiful than the smile of a healthy returning GI.



**The hunter's back**

*The Ritorno watch back opens to reveal a special compartment for a keepsake picture or can be engraved.*

We wanted to bring this little piece of personal history back to life in a faithful reproduction of the original design. We've used a 22-jeweled movement reminiscent of the best watches of the 1940s and we built this watch with \$26 million worth of Swiss built precision machinery. We then test it for 15 days on Swiss made calibrators to insure

accuracy to only seconds a day. The movement displays the day and date on the antique satin finished face and the sweep second hand lets any watch expert know that it has a fine automatic movement, not a mass-produced quartz movement. If you enjoy the rare, the classic, and the museum quality, we have a limited number of *Ritornos* available. We hope that it will remind you to take time to remember what is truly valuable. If you are not completely satisfied, simply return it within 30 days for a full refund of the purchase price.

Stauer 1944 Ritorno \$147 + S&H

Only 3 payments of \$49 + S&H

**800-806-1646**

Promotional Code RTN157-01

Please mention this when you call.

To order by mail, please call for details.

**Stauer**

HERITAGE OF ART & SCIENCE

14101 Southcross Drive W., Dept. RTN157-01  
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337

For fastest service, call toll-free 24 hours a day **800-806-1646**

Learn more about the history of the 1944 classic at [www.stauer.com](http://www.stauer.com)



and 'Article 99' (1992) immortalized VA hospitals as festering sinkholes of substandard care. The filmmakers didn't exaggerate. In an infamous incident in 1992, the bodies of two patients were found on the grounds of a VA hospital in Virginia months after they had gone missing. The huge system had deteriorated so badly by the early '90s that Congress considered disbanding it."

Now, VA medical care is ranked among the best care in the country. Indeed, *BusinessWeek's* headline calls VA "The Best Medical Care in the U.S." The Canadians have noticed too. Their publication "HealthcarePapers" calls VA medical care in the United States an "excellent example of health-care transformation." The *Journal of the American Medical Association* has praised VA's health-care system "as a bright star in the constellation of safety practice," while a recent RAND study found that VA outperforms all other sectors of U.S. health care. This year, Harvard University presented VA with top honors.

We are not only taking better care of those needing medical care; we have taken other steps to make life better for veterans.

Three years ago, Republican leadership in Congress, led by President Bush, changed 100 years of precedent when we voted to phase out the ban on concurrent receipt. As of 2004, qualified, disabled military retirees are now paid both their full military retirement pay and their VA disability compensation. Over a nine-year period, payments will increase as military retirees with 20 or more years of service and a 50-percent or higher VA-rated disability will no longer have their military retirement pay reduced by the amount of their VA disability compensation. The biggest benefits are front-loaded to benefit the most disabled first. The cost is considerable – \$46 billion over the next 10 years – but it was the right thing to do.

When it comes to those who have been injured serving in the war on terror, Republican leaders have been there to provide a hand up.

Last year, three young veterans who had served in Iraq visited me in my capacity as chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. One had lost a leg, one had lost two legs, and the other was blind. Not one of them was older than 24.

These young men told me about how their wives and parents had left home, jobs and family to be with them for months as they recuperated. They suggested I sponsor legislation to provide a lump-sum quick payment that would help tide other families over when servicemembers are seriously

hurt. They asked that I take that action not for them but for their brothers and sisters still on the battlefield. That's just what I did.

Republican leaders in the Senate and House, joined by our Democratic colleagues, agreed with the proposal and within one month – near-record time for any legislation – we passed the legislation unanimously, and President Bush quickly signed it into law. Before we were finished, though, a Republican amendment made it retroactive to 2001 to cover all those injured in the war on terror. Since its passage, more than 2,500 young servicemen and women have been helped, receiving anywhere from \$25,000 to \$100,000, depending on the severity of their injuries.

Republicans have also made moves to protect those who mourn the deceased. After a fringe group used its free-speech rights to disrupt funerals of our military heroes, we put reasonable restrictions on demonstrations at military cemeteries to balance the rights of grieving families, the

rights of private-property owners who live near cemeteries, and the rights of demonstrators to have their message heard. The bill passed, and it is now federal law.

With all of our successes,

Republicans know that much remains to be done.

This year, VA officials were stunned at the thefts of two computers that contained data on millions of veterans. Arrests were made, but lessons have been learned. VA is now encrypting all its computers and has contracted with a high-tech company to search for patterns to detect any misuse of veterans' credit data.

On the legislative front, Republicans are moving forward with measures to cut waiting times at VA medical centers, provide greater flexibility in the GI Bill, and improve SBA lending programs for military reservists.

On the economic front, the tax cuts we enacted have stimulated the economy. The federal government took in \$2.15 trillion last year – 20 percent more than the \$1.79 trillion we took in 2000. Unemployment is now down, and employment for veterans is way up; 96.5 percent of working-age veterans are now employed.

Achievements for veterans under Republican leadership have been significant, but much work is ahead of us. As you consider who to vote for this November, I hope you will vote Republican. 🇺🇸

*U.S. Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, is chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs and a member of The American Legion.*

***"Those who have worn the uniform of their nation know that Republicans have always favored those who served."***



# Do your joints have “can’t.get.out.of.bed.itis?”



Flex-a-min® can help. Flex-a-min has the Glucosamine and Chondroitin that actually helps rebuild and lubricate joints to promote joint comfort and flexibility over time.\* Making your mornings and your joints... more comfortable.

- **Helps lubricate and cushion your joints\***
- **Contains MSM to help maintain healthy cartilage\***
- **Features Hyaluronic Acid to help maintain the fluid between your joints\***
- **Triple Strength lets you take just two tablets a day**

## Flex-a-min®

For people who have more to do in life.

Available at CVS/pharmacy, Walgreens, Your Local Super Center, Duane Reade, Shopko, Kroger, A&P, City Market, Cost Cutters, Dillons, Dominicks, Drug Fair, Drug Mart, Fry's, Genuardi's, Giant Eagle, IKE's, King Soopers, Marc's/Xpect Discounts, May's Drug/Drug Warehouse, Med-X Drug, Meijer, Pamida, PathMark, Price Chopper, Raley's, Randalls, RITE AID, Safeway, Shop Rite, Smith's, Super "D" Drug, Super Fresh, Tom Thumb, USA Drug, Vons, Waldbaums. If not available at a store near you, call 1-800-255-8490 or visit us at [www.flexamin.com](http://www.flexamin.com) for more information.

\*These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. These products are not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease.

©2006, Arthritis Research Corp. 1061060ds





**THE OLD MAN WAS ALREADY THERE**, waiting for me when I pulled into the parking lot at 3:30 a.m. I immediately placed him in the “two-vet” category I used to identify the war eras of veterans I drove to the VA hospital. There were “two vets,” K’s, V’s and G’s. I guess now we have G-1’s, A’s and G-2’s, although I did not see any from the latest Gulf War.

As a volunteer van driver for Disabled American Veterans, every Tuesday morning, usually around 4 a.m., I would arrive at Lake Havasu City, Ariz., to pick up veterans and transport them to the VA hospital in Prescott. It’s a trip of 208 miles that takes about three and a half hours with a couple of stops. My day would run 12 to 16 hours, including time spent waiting for veterans to make their various medical appointments, and the trip back home.

I represented four organizations: Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, the Department of Veterans Affairs and The American Legion, whose cap I wore when driving the van. I always tried to look sharp, in my navy-blue DAV-logo polo shirt with photo ID attached to the pocket and my volunteer pin with my safe-driving miles on it. In three years, I logged more than 40,000 miles. My ID card also had my blue-and-silver U.S. Air Force service pin.

On this particular day, the “two vet” spotted my Air Force pin and asked where I had served. I told him I had been stationed here and there but spent almost three years attached to the French Air Force. He smiled and told me that he had spent almost three years attached to the Japanese army.

There it was, the reason I volunteered my time to drive these men and women: another quick glimpse into the heroic lives of ordinary people.

It took a minute or two to absorb the meaning of what he had just said. He spent almost three years as a prisoner of the Japanese in World War II. Try to imagine what that means. I am 65 years old. I was 5 at the end of the war. My only knowledge of those events comes from books and movies. Here, standing before me, was a man who had lived through what hardly anyone could imagine – a real American hero looking like any typical elderly man.

**As Good Luck Would Have It.** I served my time in the Air Force between the Korean War and the Vietnam War. I served in peacetime, otherwise known as the Cold War. The worst thing that happened to me was an extension of my enlistment for a few months as they built the Berlin Wall. Of about five years on active duty, nearly three were spent in the French countryside as a NATO liaison. Tough duty, huh? I am aware



# Glimpses of Heroes

*Volunteer van driver finds rewards far greater than money.*

BY ED SCHWEIZER

Photodisc

25

of my good luck. Born a couple years earlier, and I would have been in Korea. A couple of years later, and I would have been in Vietnam. Perhaps that's why I feel obligated to those who did serve in combat or in active war zones; they simply were not as lucky as me.

So I volunteered to drive the red, white and blue van one day a week, and I listened. Usually, it was just a short comment or a throw-away line. Sometimes it was funny. Other times it ripped my heart out. Sometimes it was like the old man in the parking lot: profound, heroic and heavy.

Some of the vets slept the whole trip. Some talked the whole trip. Some were friendly, and some were grouchy. It's hard to be in a good mood when you're on the way to see the doctor at 4 a.m., facing a long day in waiting and examination rooms.

**One Word Says It All.** I'm rolling down Interstate 40 when I hear some veterans in the seat behind me comment that they are from the same part of the Midwest and went into the service about the same time. One says to the other that he never got out of the United States; he spent the entire war on the East Coast. Then he asks his new friend where he ended up. The answer stops all conversation in the van.

"Normandy."

The word hung in the air, suspended just long enough for all of us to take it in. Slowly, conversations began anew, but the word remained with me, and it's still there. A million questions came to mind, but they weren't asked. If he wanted to say more, he would have. But he was done. There was nothing more he needed to say.

One day, during a conversation about families, a young vet said he was a twin. A "two vet" volunteered that he also was a twin. He added that he had enlisted in the Navy and served in the Pacific, while his twin joined the Army and went to Italy, where a German artillery shell made a direct hit on his foxhole.

"Never found enough to bury," the "two vet" explained. A K-V career Marine then mentioned that during his third tour of duty in 'Nam, his oldest son – a soldier also serving there – was killed in action.

Another topic was the new World War II Memorial in Washington. One of the younger vets turned to an older gentleman and asked, "Hey, old timer, were you in World War II?"

His reply stunned us all, for a moment. "Yeah. I served on both sides." Then he added, "The Atlantic and the Pacific."

A couple of female vets rode in the van. The one I remember most was a young, attractive woman who served two years in



Ed Schweizer says he'll always remember the stories he heard while driving veterans to their VA hospital appointments in Arizona.

the Navy during the first Gulf War. She wore shorts and a T-shirt. During a break, I asked her how she got through two years in the Navy; I hadn't heard her swear, seen her smoke or drink coffee, and she didn't have any tattoos.

My face reddened when she answered, "Oh, I've got the tattoos!"

**Greater Rewards.** During the waiting period at the VA hospital, I often sat in the visitors' area at the main entrance. Once, while I was reading a magazine, an elderly man walked by and caught everyone's eyes. His clothes were rather bizarre – '70s bell-bottom pants with stripes, a Hawaiian shirt, several necklace chains and a Panama straw hat. Oh, and red tennis shoes.

A young ex-GI, forgetting himself and where he was, blurted out, "Look at that crazy old coot!" Just then a three-piece suit with a close-cropped gray crewcut walked by. He could have been a doctor or a hospital administrator, but he looked like an ex-colonel. He quick-stepped into the private space of the young man and yelled right in his face, "Hey! That old man is one of the highest decorated veterans in the state of Arizona. He can wear any damn thing he wants to!"

We all suppressed a chuckle when the young man, knocked back to his military days, jumped up and barked, "Yes sir!"

If I spent another 20 years as a van driver, I would never forget John. I was sitting in my van, parked outside the main entrance and waiting, when I noticed a man sitting on a bench in the shade. He was playing a har-

monica – songs I hadn't heard since my youth. I walked over and sat down beside the man. He was blind. He immediately stopped playing. I asked him to please continue and told him I was just there to hear him play. He played a couple more haunting old melodies and then stopped. I commented that he was very good and guessed he must have been playing for a long time. "Ever since that Jap mortar took my eyes on Iwo Jima," he replied.

I was quiet for a time and then commented that it must be tough. "Oh, I'm fine," he answered. "You see, I found the secret to a good life a long time ago."

I told him I would like to know his secret.

"A good woman," he said. "That's it. That's all it takes."

He asked me if I had a good woman. I assured him I did. "Then it won't matter what happens to you. You'll be OK."

About then, his good woman came to walk him to his car, and we said our goodbyes. As he was walking away he stopped suddenly, turned my way and shouted out, "Are you still there?"

I answered that I was.

"Thank you for talking to me," he said. I finally croaked out that I would see him next time, or something equally dumb. I could barely speak. I stood at the front of that hospital, crying like a baby. Thanks for talking to me, he had said.

Volunteer van drivers don't get paid. The real reward is far greater than money – the unique opportunity to glimpse into the heroic lives of people all around us. So, when you see a van loaded with veterans on some highway in America, on its way to a VA hospital or clinic for the day, give the passengers a thumbs-up. They are extraordinary. They are unforgettable. From those of us who value what we have, they deserve a moment of recognition, and so much more. 🌿

*Ed Schweizer, a former DAV van driver in Arizona, is an Air Force veteran living in Elgin, Okla. He now serves as a volunteer at Fort Sill National Cemetery.*



# The Few. The Proud. The Marines.

Forged with an unyielding code of honor and inspired by a legendary sense of valor, United States Marines have more than lived up to their reputation as the "first to fight." Their gallant service has been a glorious testament to the courage and *Semper Fi* spirit that is unique to the Corps.

## UNIQUE TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST IN AND LAST OUT.

Now journey to the far edge of valor with America's elite fighting force on a replica collectible knife that measures a full 10 inches in length and features riveting combat portraits on its porcelain blade. Handsomely detailed sculptures of crossed Marine swords, Corps flag, and the USMC Eagle, Globe and Anchor emblem adorn the handpainted handle.

## LIMITED EDITION... ORDER TODAY!

Strong demand is expected for this limited edition, so act now to acquire "Semper Fi" at the \$39.95\* issue price, payable in two installments of \$19.97 each. Your purchase is backed by our 365-day money-back guarantee. Send no money now. Just mail the Reservation Application today!

©2006 BGE  
01-02851-001-BI

collectiblestoday.com

Home of The Bradford Exchange and All Things Collectible

### RESERVATION APPLICATION THE BRADFORD EXCHANGE

9345 Milwaukee Avenue · Niles, IL 60714-1393

THE *Heart* OF COLLECTING®

**Yes.** Please reserve the "Semper Fi" collectible for me as described in this announcement.

Limit: one per order.

Please Respond Promptly

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Mrs. Ms. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Please Print Clearly)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

01-02851-001-E94991

\*Plus a total of \$6.99 shipping and service. A limited-edition presentation restricted to 295 casting days. Please allow 4-8 weeks after initial payment for shipment. All sales are subject to product availability and order acceptance.

Richly  
adorned with  
handcast  
sculpture  
and portraits  
of heroic  
leathernecks

Shown smaller  
than actual height  
of 10½ inches.

Neither the United States Marine Corps  
nor any other component of the  
Department of Defense has approved,  
endorsed or authorized this product.







Tom Strattman



#### BY JOHN RAUGHTER

Throughout his year as national commander of The American Legion, a clock ran on Thomas L. Bock's computer with a dwindling tally of how many seconds remained in his term.

During his report to delegates at the 88th National Convention in Salt Lake City, Bock said, "This morning I have about 90,000 seconds remaining, and we are going to make every second count!"

Indeed, Bock made the most of his roughly 31.5 million seconds as leader of the nation's largest veterans organization. He visited all 50 states and 13 foreign countries, and he toured dozens of VA and military hospitals. An Air Force veteran and the father of an Army helicopter pilot who served in Iraq, Bock has tirelessly defended the war on terrorism.



# Every Second Counts

*Bush, Rice, Rumsfeld speak to Legion.*

"America is not the bad guy; the terrorists are," Bock said repeatedly at the convention and during frequent media interviews throughout his term. The point was seconded by the CEO of the global war on terrorism, President George W. Bush.

"The war we fight today is more than a military conflict," Bush told the packed convention hall. "It is the decisive ideological struggle of the 21st century. On one side are those who believe in the values of freedom and moderation – the right of all people to speak and worship and live in liberty. And on the other side are those driven by the values of tyranny and extremism – the right of a self-appointed few to impose their fanatical views on all the rest. As veterans, you have seen this kind of enemy before. They're successors to fascists, to Nazis, to communists and other

totalitarians of the 20th century. And history will show what this outcome will be: this war will be difficult, this war will be long, and this war will end in the defeat of the terrorists and totalitarians, and victory for the cause of freedom and liberty."

The presidential address was not unusual for an American Legion convention. Since taking office, President Bush has attended every Legion national convention except last year's gathering in Honolulu. His speech at Salt Lake City was the first in a series the president plans to deliver in an effort to increase support for the war on terror.

"The status quo in the Middle East before Sept. 11 was dangerous and unacceptable, so we're pursuing a new strategy," Bush said. "First, we're using every element of national power to confront al-Qaeda, those who take inspiration from them and other terrorists who use similar tactics. We have ended the days of treating terrorism simply as a law-enforcement matter. We will stay on the offense. We will fight the terrorists overseas so we do not have to face them here at home."

**Support the Troops.** While a threatened protest of Bush's appearance in Salt Lake City by antiwar activist Cindy Sheehan never materialized, her absence did not deter other demonstrations. The American Legion and the nonprofit group Operation Give held a "support-the-troops" rally outside the Salt Palace Convention Center on Aug. 30 that had several Gold Star families in attendance.

"No matter how you feel about this war, we have got to stand behind our troops," said Carol Thomas Young, mother of Brandon Thomas, a Green Beret who was killed by a roadside bomb in Iraq in 2005. "It is impossible to support our troops and protest the war at the same time. It does not work. It divides our country and fuels the enemy. Cindy Sheehan does not represent the bulk of the Gold Star families. She does not represent me, and she shames her son's blood. My heart goes out to her as a mother who has lost a son, but she needs to get behind this war effort."

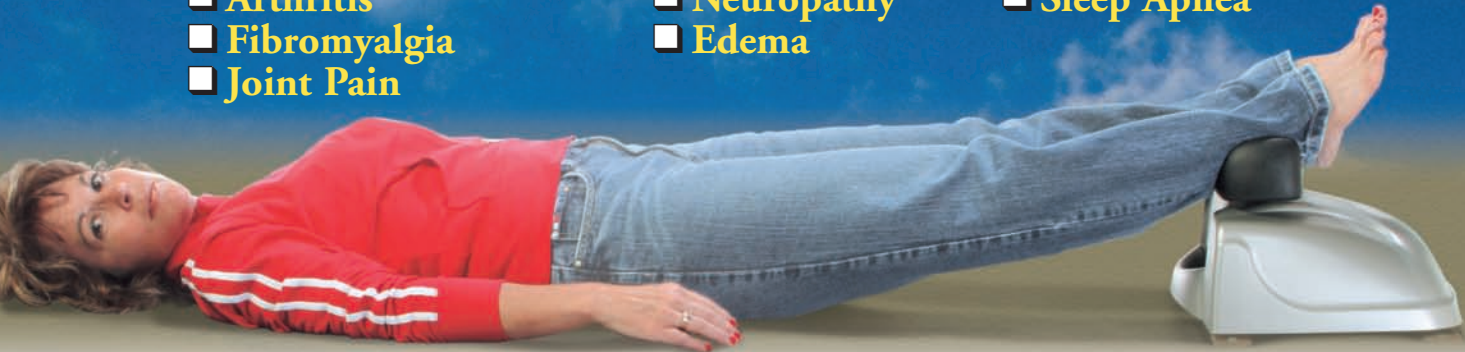
Bock told the crowd about a radio host who mistakenly thought The American Legion had declared war on war protesters. "America is not the enemy here," he said. "Terrorists are the enemy. Neither The American Legion nor Tom Bock has declared war on America. We are made up of 2.7 million wartime veterans who served our country to protect our freedoms and to stand up for our Constitution, and we appreciate every American's right to free speech. However, if they disagree with policies, we just request that they act responsibly so their actions don't undermine

# If you suffer from

- ☐ Stress
- ☐ Headaches
- ☐ High Blood Pressure
- ☐ Arthritis
- ☐ Fibromyalgia
- ☐ Joint Pain

- ☐ Constipation
- ☐ Back Pain
- ☐ Diabetes
- ☐ Neuropathy
- ☐ Edema

- ☐ Stiff Muscles
- ☐ Poor Circulation
- ☐ Insomnia
- ☐ Sleep Apnea



## How Does the Exerciser 2000 Elite™ Work?

The Exerciser 2000 Elite™ is easy to use... just lie down and place your ankles on the ankle rest.

.....  
When you turn the machine on, it creates a 2 inch lateral, right to left movement that moves the body back and forth.  
.....

The gentle movement cycles up through the whole body, which, in turn, can promote loosening of the joints in the hips and spine and relaxation of the muscles in the back.

## You will enjoy using the Exerciser 2000 Elite™

Receive the benefits of aerobic exercise without stress or impact on the joints!

Increased circulation

Oxygenation of the blood

Movement of the lymph fluid

Relaxation of the back muscles

Increase production and release of endorphins and nitric oxide

Loosen joints in the hips and spine

### FEATURES

- FDA Class 1 Registered
- ETL Approval
- 5-speed operation
- 2 pre-programmed selections—one for relaxation and one for energizing
- Heavy duty, high torque DC motor
- Wide cushioned ankle rest
- 16 minute digital timer with safety shut-off
- 4 year parts and labor warranty
- No risk 90 day money back guarantee

These statements have not been evaluated by the FDA. Not intended to treat, cure or prevent any diseases.



## Invest in your health ...Call Today!



# What people are saying about the Exerciser 2000™ Elite

I love using the Exerciser 2000 Elite™ after my morning workout. It is an excellent way to cool down and it helps to start my day off right.—*Deanna C., Kansas*

After using the Exerciser 2000 Elite™ twice a day for one week the swelling in my ankles went away. It has also helped my breathing, as I can get out and walk without having to stop and catch my breath! Thank you.—*Shirley H., Florida*

I have had constipation problems for over 25 years. Since I have been using the Exerciser 2000 Elite™ I have been regular every day and have begun to lose weight. This is truly a blessing and is so easy to use.—*Jeannie*

I use the Exerciser 2000 Elite™ during the day when my energy level starts to drop. After 15 minutes on the machine I am fully rejuvenated and ready to go again! I no longer have to rely on my afternoon espresso to get me through the day thanks to the Exerciser 2000™ Elite. —*Linda T., Mass.*

My husband and I have been into natural products all of our lives but nothing has ever affected us like the Exerciser 2000™ Elite. My husband is 72 and delivers flowers all day long. He has to carry 5 gallon buckets of water and flowers that would give him backaches. Since using the machine, his back hasn't hurt him at all. My hips would hurt if I stood too long and I would get weak and have to sit down. Now it doesn't bother me at all. I can walk and sit as long as I want. I don't have to take pain medication anymore. When I get up in the morning, I jump right out of bed and I'm not stiff anymore. At 65, wow, this is great! Thank you for offering such a great machine. We are going to tell everyone we know about it.—*Cheryl J.*

## Edema Alleviated

I was a beautician for over 40 years and developed edema from standing in the same place for long periods of time. I practiced yoga to help keep my lymph system working. A few years after retiring, I had a stroke and could no longer exercise the way I used to do. I tried the Exerciser 2000 Elite™ and loved it. I started using the machine for 5 minutes and kept increasing the time. After using the machine daily for a few weeks, my symptoms of edema were completely gone. I now use the machine for 15 minutes every day and attribute my ongoing recovery to the Exerciser 2000™ Elite.—*Lois*

## Diabetics

I am in my late 80's and have diabetes. The first thing I noticed when I started using my machine was that my feet were warm when I went to bed. They were always ice cold before. Because one of my problems is poor circulation, I use the machine three times a day for 10 minutes each; in the morning, late afternoon and just before bed. I almost forgot to mention that I have not been able to lift my arms above my head. Now I can do it. You think that's no big deal until you can't do it anymore.—*Ralph K.*

## A Brief Explanation from a Chiropractor

The Exerciser 2000 Elite™ stimulates the spinal column through a rhythmic serpentine motion. While the spine is moving, the surrounding soft tissue is, also, moving. This musculature and ligamentous tissue is, also, being stretched and increased flexibility is gained. There is, also, a benefit of motion within all the tissues of the body, including, the myofacial tissues of the abdomen and chest. As these tissues are moved, we find that the circulation has increased, and especially in the lymphatic tissues, we see a circulation that is increased dramatically, as these tissues require motion to function, as they are not under pressure like the arterial and venous systems.

I would like to state that the Exerciser 2000 Elite™ is a neuromuscular reeducation, and thus can be billed in the office for professionals who wish to do so. It can be billed under neuromuscular reeducation or myofacial release.

In conclusion, I would like to say that the Exerciser 2000 Elite™ fits very well into the vitalistic philosophy. It enables people to benefit themselves at home. It is a valuable asset in moving lymph fluid, oxygenating the blood, increasing immune system function, maintaining mobility in the spine, and additionally freeing up a spine that has become stiff and arthritic.

This machine assists and helps people maintain health and function throughout their life-times.—*Garry Gorsuch, D.C.*

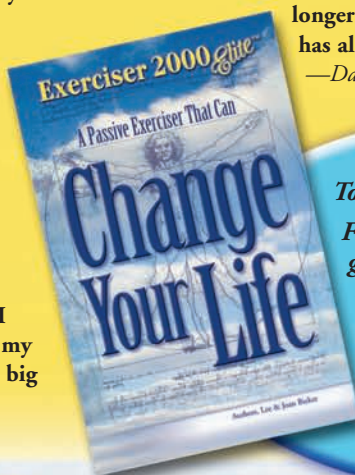
## Sleep Apnea

I had suffered with sleep apnea for many years and had been taking drugs for it. The end result was waking everyday with a total feeling of lethargy. After a sleep study had been done, I was told I would have to use a breathing apparatus. In the meantime, I was introduced to the Exerciser 2000 Elite™ and decided to purchase one.

To start with, I used it for just 4 minutes, three times a day on speed #3. Within two weeks I was using it three times a day for ten minutes each session. I was sleeping more deeply and restfully than ever before and I stopped taking drugs.

Today, over a year later, I use the Exerciser 2000 Elite™ and am sleeping better than ever. My wife no longer complains about my snoring, which has all but abated and I feel great.

—*David B.*



To learn more, ask for this book!

For individuals who find it difficult to get up and down from the floor, a specially built table to accommodate the Exerciser 2000 Elite™ is available.

Mention this ad and save over \$100.

No risk 90 day money back guarantee.

# 1-800-748-7172

**CLARK** enterprises

The "Helping People Feel Better" Company

240 Berg Road, Salina, KS 67401



the morale, focus and concentration of the troops. You cannot separate the war from the warrior.”

Bock recalled a previous war when public support waned. “We remember the 1960s and ’70s, when the people thought they could love the troops and hate the war. Well, we had soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines returning from Vietnam who were shamed, spat on and called babykillers. We are here to say that The American Legion is not going to allow that to happen again.”

Conan Heimdal served in the Utah National Guard until he was wounded in Iraq. “The time for debating whether our troops need to be in a region is prior to deploying them,” he said, his voice breaking. “Once we send our sons, daughters, husbands and wives, we must do all we can to help them secure the peace, sustain the peace and ensure a lasting peace for generations to come. We have won the war in Iraq. Give our soldiers the strength of a galvanized homefront so we can win the peace in Iraq.”

Just 10 days before the rally, Tony and Amy Galvez lost their son, Marine Cpl. Adam Galvez, to a roadside bomb in Iraq’s Anbar Province. That did not stop the couple from sending Bock a message of support to be read at the rally, conducted the same day they buried their son.

“As parents, we always want to think of our sons as great individuals, patriots and heroes. Adam’s fellow Marines and commanders have indeed verified all of these things to us,” the couple wrote.



President Bush said that the overwhelming majority of Iraqis want peace and a normal life in a unified country.

Tom Stratman

“Some individuals have falsely suggested that Adam died in vain. Though many are debating the justification for this war, Adam’s belief in his country had not wavered, even to the point of making the ultimate sacrifice. A country divided cannot stand for long. We all want our troops to come home as soon as possible, alive and unharmed. In light of all of this, while our forefathers gave us the right and privilege to challenge our leaders, the manner and method that some people have chosen to use at this time only emboldens the enemy with motivation and courage to confront our brave troops. All Americans and political officials must carefully consider their words and

## Resolutions

*For full text of the resolutions passed during the 88th National Convention in Salt Lake City, contact The American Legion Library at (317) 630-1366, e-mail [library@legion.org](mailto:library@legion.org) or visit the Web site at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org). Send a written request for a booklet of all approved resolutions to The Library, The American Legion, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.*

### ECONOMICS

- 10** Calls for reinstating Veterans Entrepreneur Training program grants
- 15** Calls for reinstating funding for the Veterans Upward Bound education programs
- 16** Requests that Congress make changes in legislation relating to the Work Opportunity Tax Credit program
- 17** Seeks legislation allowing military

retirees to apply for federal law-enforcement positions after age 37

- 20** Opposes the utilization of DVOP/LVER to work with or process public-assistance programs
- 23** Reaffirms support for the Transition Assistance Program
- 24** Supports legislation reauthorizing the Servicemembers Occupational Conversion and Training Act program
- 39** Calls for providing honorably discharged wartime veterans an exemption from federal income tax when cashing U.S. savings bonds they own or later purchase
- 40** Supports the continuation/extension and adequate funding of the President’s National Hire Veterans Committee
- 41** Seek legislation providing payment of the \$1,200 death benefit during the 10-year eligibility period in the event of a catastrophic disability or death not the result of the veteran’s willful misconduct

**42** Seeks legislation supporting activated reservists

- 43** Seeks legislation adding active reservists to those eligible for certain job-training services
- 45** Supports Congress establishing “Hire a Veteran Week”
- 47** Supports job protection for service-connected veterans requiring visits to VA facilities
- 48** Supports retaining the 10-year delimiting period for veterans to use Montgomery GI Bill educational benefits
- 127** Supports increased funding for the Small Business Administration’s Office of Veterans Business Development
- 129** Supports VA’s Small Business Loan Program
- 158** Supports the continuing initiatives of the National Veterans Business Development Corp.
- 161** Favors legislation to require a 5-percent goal, with set-aside and sole



actions, for they can, in fact, increase the danger to our troops and adversely impact their efforts.”

Dr. Eaman Al-Gobory, an Iraqi citizen, expressed her appreciation for what the United States has done for her country. “If you remember the first day after Saddam fell, the Iraqis were laughing and celebrating. But outsiders have been trying to turn illiterate Iraqis against America,” she said. “The average Iraqi is happy that American forces are there. I have been attacked by the insurgents, but I still feel much safer that the Americans are there. I thank America.”

**Top Diplomat.** In terms of high-profile speakers, the 88th National Convention ranked as one of The American Legion’s best. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice was one of three cabinet secretaries who spoke.

“Through your two signature programs, Boys State and Girls State, you’re introducing a new generation of Americans to the principles of the American republic,” Rice said. “You’re setting them on a course to become the new leaders of our country. And you’re teaching our youngest citizens to be proud that we Americans are and always will be ‘one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.’”

The former Stanford University provost reminded Legionnaires why the United States is engaged in the war on terrorism. “Because we’ve gone on the offense, America is safer, but we are not yet safe,

as we’ve seen just recently with the foiled terror plot in London. We know that every day violent extremists are plotting new ways to do us harm. And we know that now and for many years to come, America and our allies will be engaged in a long war, a war that we can and must win.”

Rice cautioned that Iraq is critical to keeping America safe. “If we abandon the Iraqi people before their government is strong enough to secure the country, then we will show reformers across the region that America cannot be trusted to keep its word. We will embolden extremist enemies of moderation and of democratic reform. We will leave the makings of a failed state in Iraq, like that one in Afghanistan in the 1990s, which became the base for al Qaeda and the launching pad for the Sept. 11 hijackers. And we should not assume for one minute that those terrorists will not continue to come after the American homeland. That is why President Bush calls Iraq a central front in the war on terror.”

**Gold Medals of Remembrance.** The war on terrorism is not being fought without great sacrifice, which was illustrated when Bock presented medals that no family would ever hope to receive. Rhea Pintor, Kiara Danielle Smith and Madeline Paige Smith were given Gold Medals of Remembrance in honor of their fathers.

Pintor’s father, Army Capt. Dennis L. Pintor, was killed in Baghdad in 2004. The Smiths lost their

source authority, for federal procurements and contracts for businesses owned and controlled by veterans

**200** Supports priority of service for veterans in all state employment

**201** Supports improvements in the reporting programs available to and administered by the Veterans Employment and Training Service

**203** Supports legislation requiring Veterans Employment and Training Service regional administrators, state directors, assistant state directors and other professional staff under VETS to be veterans of the armed services

**204** Supports improvements of Veterans Employment and Training Service performance standards

**206** Opposes all efforts to transfer Veterans Employment and Training Service from Department of Labor to VA

**207** Opposes consolidation of employment service program and

veterans employment program into the Workforce Investment Act programs

**209** Seeks legislation requiring LVER and DVOP staff be veterans and serve only veterans, and that assignment of positions to local one-stop centers be based on veteran populations

**210** Supports legislation requiring that veteran staff serve only veterans, that half-time DVOP/LVER positions be assigned only after approval of the DVET, and that the secretary of Labor be required to monitor all career centers that have veteran staff assigned

**212** Supports full funding of the National Veterans Training Institute

**213** Urges the State Employment Security Agencies to report separately on veterans’ wages at placement

**231** Seeks adequate funding for the Local Veterans Employment Representatives and Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialists

**232** Opposes the outsourcing of all federal jobs held by veterans and disabled veterans without the protection of reduction-in-force policies and veterans preference

**233** Requests Employment and Training Administration develop a data-collection system to monitor veterans’ priority of service

**234** Supports veterans preference in public employment

**241** Supports legislation to change the ceiling on a VA loan to \$834,000 in those situations where two eligible veterans of the opposite sex are married to each other and purchase a home together

**246** Supports existing legislation and case law that prohibit the Department of Education from including disability payments in determining the ability of service-connected disabled veterans to repay student loans

**293** Supports staffing Local Veterans



father, Chief Warrant Officer John Daren Smith, in 2003 while he was serving in Kuwait.

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld joined Bock onstage. Earlier, he had presented The American Legion's Spirit of Service Awards to representatives of each branch of the U.S. military.

Rumsfeld praised The American Legion for opening a new office in the Pentagon as part of its "Heroes to Hometowns" program to support returning veterans. "The Department of Defense is proud to be a partner with you in the 'Heroes to Hometowns' program, which is helping severely wounded veterans with job searches, their homes and other activities to aid the transition to civilian life," he said. "Your partnership with the 'America Supports You' campaign helps communities, organizations and individuals across this nation express their appreciation to our troops and their families."

Rumsfeld then provided an historical comparison between World War II and the war on terrorism, recalling a senator who, after Germany invaded Poland, commented, "If only I could have talked with Hitler, all this might have been avoided."

"With the growing lethality and availability of weapons, can we truly afford to believe that somehow vicious extremists can be appeased? Can we really continue to think that free countries can negotiate a separate peace with terrorists? Can we truly afford the luxury of pretending that the threats today are simply law-enforcement prob-



Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld warned that terrorists have made their intentions clear in New York, Washington, Bali, London, Madrid and Moscow. *Tom Stratman*

lems, rather than fundamentally different threats requiring fundamentally different approaches? And can we truly afford to return to the destructive view that America, not the enemy, is the real source of the world's trouble?" Rumsfeld asked. "These are central questions of our time, and we must face them."

Rumsfeld specifically cited Iraq as an essential part of the war on terrorism. "The extremists themselves call Iraq the 'epicenter' in the war on terror. And our troops know how important their mission is," he said. "A soldier who recently volunteered for a second tour in Iraq captured the

*continued on Page 42*

Employment Representatives as required by law

**368** Urges the strengthening of veterans preference in federal, state and local government and opposes any efforts to reduce or circumvent veterans preference

**370** Urges Congress to amend the qualified veteran definition in the Internal Revenue Code

**371** Supports any legislative or administrative initiative that will give preference to U.S. veterans and their families in obtaining housing through the programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development

**372** Supports major enhancements for the Montgomery GI Bill

**373** Supports efforts to eliminate employment barriers that impede the transfer of military job skills to the civilian labor market

**374** Urges Congress to keep the Health Care for Homeless Veterans program,

the Homeless Domiciliary program and the Compensated Work Therapy Rehabilitation program funded separately from general VA funding

**375** Urges Congress to open up homestead privileges to U.S. military veterans on a priority basis

**376** Seeks to ensure that veterans receive employment preference from employers who receive grants and contracts from the federal government, and employment preference from employers who receive funding on all federally assisted projects

**377** Supports the development of on-the-job training programs for eligible veterans

**378** Supports legislation providing tax credits to any employer who either pays an employee who is called to active duty their regular salary or who makes up the difference between that person's military pay and his regular civilian salary

**379** Supports VA's Loan Guaranty Service and its programs

**380** Supports recognition of military service and pay when calculating starting federal civilian salaries

**381** Seeks legislation allowing military retirees entering federal service to credit all military service to accrual of annual leave

#### **CHILDREN & YOUTH**

**317** Supports appropriate state and federal legislation aimed at improving services for children in foster homes

**318** Seeks legislation to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide equal treatment in admission of all children of U.S. citizens

**319** Urges the federal government to enact legislation to financially assist families faced by the catastrophic illness of one of their children

**320** Supports appropriate state and federal legislation aimed at improving child-care services for children



# Medicare Covers Erectile Dysfunction Correction

ADVANCED SYSTEM USING THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY IN TREATING ED



For many, the first-choice of treatment for ED should be Vacuum Therapy. Unlike drugs, pills, or injections, Vacuum Therapy is non-invasive and has no side-effects. Negative pressure mimics the body's natural function and produces an almost instant erection. Vacuum Therapy is also the only treatment that provides a significant therapeutic benefit while also creating functional erection. Some men actually regain spontaneous erections as vascular health is improved using Vacuum Therapy. Countless couples have brought the joy back into their lives with the ED Vacuum Therapy systems.

Discount Diabetic also provides NO COST – Diabetes Testing Supplies and Arthritis Heating Pads – all covered by Medicare and most insurance companies! Call 1-800-276-1982 today! *\*Deductible and copay may apply.*

- Battery operated so no embarrassing manual pumping needed. Provides for a quick erection versus having to wait after manual pumping. Because it is battery powered can be operated with just one hand when you are ready.
- Smaller inconspicuous rings are easy to apply, last a long time and are inexpensive to replace. We provide multiple ring sizes at no extra cost because everyone is different.
- Lifetime Manufacturer Warranty versus other companies 1-3 year warranty.
- We are so confident you will be satisfied we have always offered a 30-day money back guarantee.
- No complicated forms to fill out for ordering, we even provide FREE shipping to you. We can obtain your prescription for you.
- Don't order some small, cheap toy system that you're not sure will work or fit you, when you can get an FDA Registered, Medically Approved and Physician Recommended Device that is covered by Medicare and most insurance companies which could mean NO COST TO YOU.\*

CALL TODAY AT 1-800-276-1982 TO ORDER or VISIT [www.discountdiabetic.com](http://www.discountdiabetic.com)

Walk-In  
Bath Tubs  
from Premier

## “A relaxing bath is something we all have the right to enjoy.”



Getting older shouldn't get in the way of enjoying your bathroom. Premier's extensive range of Walk-in Tubs have helped improve the lives of thousands of people. Low entry, built in seat and temperature

control are some of the benefits our tubs offer. Call or send for a FREE brochure.

**Premier**  
BATHROOMS



Please send me a FREE color brochure featuring the Premier range of walk-in tubs

Name

Telephone

Address

City

State

Zip

Send to: Premier Bathrooms Inc, 2330 South Nova Rd, South Daytona, Florida 32119

CODE 10116

CALL NOW • TOLL FREE

**1-800-578-2899**

SOURCE CODE 10116



## AMERICAN LEGACY RUN A RIDER'S JOURNAL

*Duane Mercier and Dave Elmore of The American Legion National Headquarters staff traveled the route and recorded the events, in words and images, of the first-ever American Legacy Run, from Indianapolis to the 88th National Convention in Salt Lake City last August. Following is an account of their nearly 2,000-mile motorcycle journey, the friendships forged and funds raised to help the children of U.S. military personnel killed in action on or after 9/11.*

### AUG. 17 – KICKOFF CEREMONY

The rider's vest. Much like the uniforms we wore in the military, it tells a lot about the experiences of the person wearing it. Many of those gathering for the American Legacy Run wear an American Legion Riders patch on the back, with patches and pins showing various rides they've taken and places they've been. Some show their military service insignia and ranks, along with Legion post and department affiliations.

At American Legion Post 62 in Indianapolis the group gathered for the kickoff ceremony the night prior to departure – a time to get to know one another, pair up for the ride and, like Legionnaires everywhere, tell stories.

National Commander Tom Bock brought the group to its feet when he entered the room. We were all honored that he took the time to join us on this wonderful crusade.

Money for the American Legacy Scholarship fund starts rolling in. The commander accepts envelopes and checks from posts, departments and individuals. A single post in



The family of the late Staff Sgt. Mark Anthony Evans-Lawton – wife Sherri and sons Tanner and Dustin – was honored when Legionnaires in Craig, Colo., dedicated Post 62 to the fallen soldier's memory. *James V. Carroll*



Converse, Texas, sent a check for \$10,000 with its riders. A young girl from Indianapolis shyly approached the microphone and gave \$32 "for the kids." That brought everyone in the room to their feet for a second time. More than a few hands wiped away tears.

If riders' vests had sleeves, these people would have their hearts on them.



Lincoln-Mercury, an original sponsor of the American Legacy Fund, provided official chase vehicles for the American Legacy Run.

## AUG. 18 – THE RIDE BEGINS

KSU:0800.

That's rider talk for "Kick stands up at 8 a.m." When stands go up, it's time to roll. The group left precisely on time. Zero down, 1,900 miles to go.

Within 20 miles, it began to rain, and did so off and on all the way through Indiana and Illinois,

including a downpour during the first meal stop in Effingham, Ill. Then as we crossed into Missouri and to the city of Columbia, our first overnight stop, it got hot. The rain suits dried quickly on the outside and started steaming from the inside as the sweat began to roll.

No one complained. "We got wet, and then we got dry," one rider explained. "Then we got wet again. It was fine!"

The first 400 miles was behind us. On to another Legion post to eat and accept more donations for the Legacy Scholarship fund.



**Above:** Senior rider Carl McKeller of Connecticut, who made it all the way from Indianapolis to Salt Lake City, drove one of the run's more artistically adorned bikes.

**Below:** A \$32 American Legacy Scholarship donation from Megan Smith in Indianapolis brought some riders to tears on the eve of the trip.



**The American Legacy Scholarship** provides college funds for the children of U.S. military personnel killed in action on or after Sept. 11, 2001. Donate by visiting [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org) or mail a check to:  
**American Legacy Scholarship**  
The American Legion  
P.O. Box 1055  
Indianapolis, IN 46206

37

## Riders pay tribute to new namesake of Craig, Colo., post

BY JAMES V. CARROLL

Staff Sgt. Mark Anthony Evans-Lawton awoke Aug. 29, 2003, to another blistering Iraqi morning. It would be his last. He carried out his morning duties, preparing for a scheduled convoy from Forward Operating Base Normandy to FOB Pacesetter along a major highway north of Suaydat.

Lawton, along with Sgt. 1st Class Dianna Leinberger and Sgt. Kenneth Favorite, led the six-vehicle movement. They came out of a series of turns and onto an open stretch of road lined by tall grass and bushes. Unbeknownst to them, a sniper terrorist had taken cover there. Immediately he opened fire on the lead Humvee, putting bullets through the radiator, the passenger windshield, the right rear wheel well and through Lawton. He was killed instantly. Leinberger, the driver, was uninjured and sped way from the ambush, as trained.

Shrapnel and remnants of the bullet believed to have killed Lawton lodged in Favorite's right leg.

Further back in the convoy, the battle raged. A rocket-propelled grenade crashed into the cab of the second vehicle. It caught briefly in the front windshield, spewing glass before ripping through the roof and exploding. Sgt. Michael Wethington took some of the glass fragments in his eyes.

The rear vehicle carrying Capt. James Burwell, Spc. Crystal Woolen, Spc. Tyler McWilliams and Pfc. Keith Deutsch, received heavy fire as it passed through the killing zone. As Deutsch fired his automatic weapon at three enemy terrorists, a fourth stood and launched an RPG that struck the back tailgate. McWilliams was sprayed with shrapnel but kept enough composure to apply a tourniquet to Deutsch, whose leg had been blown off.

It was one deadly moment among many for U.S.



## AUG. 19 – A TIME FOR TRIBUTES

This is the longest leg of the journey, by mileage alone. We pause at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., to honor the Buffalo Soldiers with a wreath-laying at their memorial.

◀ As we roll again, we pass through Topeka, where a dozen or so Legionnaires from Post 400 are perched on an overpass with flags unfurled, causing a lot of good old horn-blowing patriotism from cars and trucks below.

As the Legacy Run riders approach, the group on the overpass comes to attention. “Present arms!” is called. The riders pass below, their spirits rekindled, their tired butts forgotten. Our family is with us all the way.

## AUG. 20 – HORSES NEED FED

The longest time between meals today: eight hours and 355 miles. Another time zone is crossed.

Naturally, our “horses” need fuel every 100 miles or so. But we’re on the way to the national commander’s home post in Aurora, Colo., where they’re working hard to set us up with a meal and a rest stop.

All the posts along the way have been wonderful. Crews are working hard to feed us, give us more donations and send us on our way with their warmest wishes.

forces fighting in Operation Iraqi Freedom. And it was a moment that will reverberate forever in Moffett County, Colo.

**A Military Man.** Sherri Lea knew when she married Lawton in 1998 that her civilian husband’s wanderlust for military life would sooner or later overtake him. He had been in and out of the military since 1983. He served as a fire-support specialist in the Army until 1986, when he entered the Army’s Individual Ready Reserve program for a year and a half. His devotion to the armed forces and his love of country prompted Lawton to join the Marine Corps in 1988. During the next seven and a half years as a general equipment operator he served two sea tours, including one in Operation Desert Storm.

Lawton left the Marines in 1996 and returned home to Colorado, where he got a job as a heavy-equipment operator at Colowyo Coal Co. – and fell in love. He married Sherri, and in 1999 they had their first child, Dustin Wade. Life was good, but the military was not yet out of him. In 2000, he joined the Army Reserves in Grand Junction, Colo., where he quickly earned the respect of his fellow soldiers and officers. In 2002, the Lawtons had a second son, Tanner Lee. At the time his unit deployed to Iraq in 2003, Mark was a squad leader and had earned the rank of staff sergeant. He was living a full life, in and out of the military.

“I really didn’t want Mark to go back into the

military,” Sherri recalls. “But I loved him. I wanted him to be happy. I wanted him to be successful. So I supported his decision. It hurts today. I miss Mark terribly. But I still support his decision. He loved his country enough to risk his life. He paid with his life. How can I not be proud of him? How cannot everyone be proud of him?”

On the day of her husband’s death, Sherri remembers walking to the fence of their rural northwestern Colorado home and adding to a lengthy collection another small U.S. Flag and a yellow ribbon. She had promised herself she would faithfully mark the days until her husband and his fellow warriors of A Company, 244th Engineer Battalion (Heavy), returned safely home.

“It was the least I could do,” Sherri recalled, mopping tears from her cheeks with a soaked paper napkin. “I wanted to keep fresh in my mind, and in the minds of anyone who passed by, that my husband and his unit were risking their lives for me and my children and every other American who enjoys the freedom our country has to offer.

“I thought seriously about taking down the flags and ribbons after Mark was killed, but I couldn’t bring myself to do it. I wanted to continue to count every day that Mark’s unit was in harm’s way. I wanted them to know that they were appreciated back home. I wanted people to pray for their safe return.”

**A Reunion of Heroes.** Nearly three years to the



## AUG. 21 – ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH

After three days of mostly freeway riding, we're in for a treat as we ride from Longmont to Craig, Colo., through the mountains. If the bikes weren't so loud, I'm sure we would have heard choruses of John Denver songs echoing from the riders as we wound through the mountains.

This was the only leg of the journey where we were behind schedule, which was unfortunate because we had a large number of people waiting for us in Craig to rededicate the post in honor of a fallen hero.

But they waited more than two hours past our scheduled arrival. They knew we were riding for the children of the soldier we honored that day. And we knew that, too.

## AUG. 22 – THE HOME STRETCH

By what measure do you declare success?

That we arrived with no injuries or major incidents? That we bonded in a way that few groups ever have a chance? That we appear to have met and exceeded our fund-raising goals? That we once again proved American Legion members are up to any challenge to support comrades and their families?

We declared Legacy Run 2006 a success by all those



Soldiers, including members of the Army Reserve 244th Engineer Battalion who served with Lawton in Iraq, solemnly pay tribute to their comrade and his family at the Post 62 ceremony. *James V. Carroll*

day after Lawton's death in Iraq, soldiers and civilians from around the country gathered to remember him. They met Aug. 21 in Craig, Colo., to participate and witness the dedication of the community's American Legion post: Mark Anthony Evans-Lawton Post 62.

"Mark was a local boy, and the community took his death pretty hard," said Post 62 commander Mel Shockley, sitting in his cubbyhole office a day before the dedication. "We are a small community, and everyone knows everyone else. Once the idea was brought up to name the post in honor of Mark

the entire community joined in."

What was originally supposed to be a local event quickly drew national attention. The American Legion Riders, accompanied by American Legion National Commander Thomas L. Bock, veered from their 1,900-mile ride from Indianapolis to the 88th American Legion National Convention in Salt Lake City to take part. The Legion Riders were collecting money along the route to the convention for the American Legacy Scholarship Fund, set up to provide college funds

for children of active-duty military men and women killed in action since Sept. 11, 2001.

"Sherri Lawton and I talked after the dedication, and she told me the only thing she was worried about was how she was going to take care of her sons' college education," Bock recalled while traveling from Craig to Rock Springs, Wyo., the last stop of the Legacy Run before bivouacking in Salt Lake City. "I told her not to worry about Dustin's and Tanner's college education. I told her that money will be awaiting Dustin and Tanner in the American Legacy Scholarship Fund. And it will."



measures and more. We finished the trip with 62 bikes and nearly 100 people, counting passengers and support crew. Many new friends and memories.

Many of them rode the entire 1,900 miles from Indianapolis. I have a feeling they would have gone another 1,000 miles for that young girl in Indianapolis and her \$32 contribution.

In all, the Legacy Run brought in \$170,000 for the scholarship fund. Riders came from as far away as Arizona and Texas to catch up with us on the route to hand over their contributions. Those who missed the opportunity this year are quite likely to have another chance when the second annual Legacy Run heads to Reno and the 89th National Convention in 2007. 🌿



Frank "Sarge" Prosser, left, and Terry Woodburn of Illinois celebrate the ride's completion.



At the end of the line, as riders rolled into Salt Lake City, it was time to unfurl Old Glory and celebrate a successful first annual event.

Learn more about American Legion Riders • (317) 630-1265 • [legionriders@legion.org](mailto:legionriders@legion.org) • [www.americanlegionriders.net](http://www.americanlegionriders.net)

When the soldiers of the 244th Engineer Battalion returned home from Iraq, Sherri stood waiting on the tarmac to greet them. Three years later, at the Craig Legion post, many of those same soldiers awaited Sherri's arrival. Two of them – Leinberger and Favorite, the last people to see Lawton alive – greeted her almost immediately. One by one, other soldiers approached her. They spoke in hushed tones, sharing memories that only friends could share. Tears were plenty, as were smiles. They reminisced about good times and consoled her. Soldier Charles Wimer, who was riding in the third vehicle in the convoy the day Lawton was killed, lifted his T-shirt sleeve to show Sherri a tattoo on his upper left arm. The inked etching, dedicated to Lawton, bore the words, "All Gave Some – One Gave All."

Later, Leinberger reflected on the human cost of war and how Lawton's death has rallied a community. "Mark – Staff Sgt. Lawton – was a human being, an individual with a wife and kids. I think sometimes numbers overpower individuals. No matter how many die in Iraq, Mark is not a number. The dedication today is a great honor to his memory. It demonstrates that his loss is still a loss even with the passage of time. It's an honor to be here. Sherri stood with us even after losing Mark. It's right for us to stand with her now."



Dustin Lawton, 7, displays the U.S. Flag and case given by Legion Riders.

James V. Carroll

Sunday, the day before the post dedication, Sherri recalled how difficult but rewarding it's been for her to stay in contact with the soldiers of her late husband's unit. Still, it was something she had to do, she said. During the remainder of the unit's deployment she continued to send care packages and letters. After Mark's unit returned home and before Sherri and her sons left Colorado to move to Missouri, she sent each soldier in Lawton's unit a faded American flag and yellow ribbon from the fence in front of her home.

Standing at the front of the emptying American Legion post now bearing the name of her late husband, Sherri clutched tightly a glass-encased U.S. Flag presented to her by Neal Thomas, chairman of the Colorado Legion Riders.

"Mark probably would be very embarrassed about all these goings-on," Sherri whispered. "But I know, deep down inside, he would be proud. And he would have a right to be proud. His

name will be honored as long as there is a Mark Anthony Evans-Lawton American Legion Post 62. Mark has always been my knight in shining armor. Now, he is an American hero." 🌿

James V. Carroll is an assistant editor at The American Legion Magazine.



We care about you. Ride safely, respectfully and within the limits of the law and your abilities. Always wear an approved helmet, proper eyewear and protective clothing, and insist your passenger does too. Never ride while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Know your Harley® motorcycle and read and understand your owner's manual from cover to cover. ©2006 H-D. Harley, Harley-Davidson, and the Bar & Shield logo are among the trademarks of H-D Michigan, Inc.

# A hero's welcome of a different sort.



**The 2007 Patriot Special Edition. Available until January 15, 2007.**

Five distinct editions, custom-built to honor each branch of the U.S. Military. No motorcycle has been more earned. Available to those actively serving in the U.S. Military, members of the reserves or veterans, and their immediate family members only. Thumb the starter at your dealer or drop by [www.harley-davidson.com/patriot](http://www.harley-davidson.com/patriot).



Live by it.



continued from Page 34

feelings of many of his peers. In an e-mail to friends, he wrote, 'I ask that you never take advantage of the liberties guaranteed by the shedding of free blood, never take for granted the freedoms granted by our Constitution. For those liberties would be merely ink on paper were it not for the sacrifice of generations of Americans who heard the call of duty and responded heart, mind and soul with *Yes, I will.*' Someday that young man may be a member of The American Legion, attending a convention such as this. I hope he will be. And one day, a future speaker may reflect back on this time of historic choice, remembering the questions raised as to our country's courage, dedication and willingness to persevere this fight until we prevail. The question is not whether we can win. It is whether we have the will to persevere. I am convinced that Americans do have that determination. And that we have learned the lessons of history, of the folly of turning a blind eye to danger. These are lessons you know well – lessons that your heroism has helped to teach to generations of Americans."

**Resolutions and More Resolutions.** While the war on terror may have been the most high-profile issue The American Legion addressed at the convention, it was far from the only issue. Heeding Bock's call to "make every second count,"

delegates passed 233 national resolutions, including 222 with legislative intent.

Issues covered the gamut – from the flag amendment to VA health care to support for Boy Scouts of America. After debate and lengthy consideration in earlier forums, delegates passed the first national per-capita dues increase in 13 years. The \$4.50 increase, when adjusted for inflation, is smaller than the \$3.50 increase passed in 1993.

Past National Commander Ronald F. Conley delivered an impassioned floor speech in support of the measure. "Since 1994 we have cut back on employees in the national organization, cut back on travel spent even though the costs of taking airplanes and moving by automobiles have gone up," he said. "In 1993 we had a dues increase that was projected to last for 10 years and it lasted 13 due to the responsible oversight of the Finance Commission and NEC. Another projection of 10 years to carry this organization through and maintain its programs is worth it. I hope everyone here votes to support this national organization. It's not you against us. We are one and all, and it is our responsibility to take care of this organization."

If convention delegates were disappointed that the Senate failed by a single vote to pass the flag-protection amendment, they hid their despair. "Some say this is a defeat, but I say it's a victory," Bock said. "We brought it to a vote in the U.S. Senate. That in itself is a major accomplishment. Never before in the history of the United States has

**321** Supports appropriate state and federal legislation aimed at preventing child maltreatment

**322** Supports appropriate state and federal legislation aimed at preventing or reducing unintentional injury among children and adolescents

**323** Encourages state legislatures to evaluate and make appropriate improvements in existing laws aimed at those individuals involved in the child-pornography business

**324** Affirms support of the programs as outlined by the Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant

**325** Urges the president and Congress to support with adequate funding all border state, federal and military drug-trafficking prevention programs

**327** Supports appropriate state and federal legislation aimed at locating missing children and preventing child victimization

**328** Urges the president and Congress

to establish "National Family Week" during Thanksgiving Holiday Week

**329** Opposes any attempt to weaken present laws governing the penalties for the production, sale and distribution of pornographic or obscene materials

**330** Supports state and federal legislation to restrict the excessive use of violence, vulgarity and other forms of moral depravation in movies, TV programs, TV news and the Internet

**331** Supports the fullest use of any licensed vaccine to combat communicable diseases

**332** Urges Congress to appropriate sufficient funds for school-nutrition programs

**333** Supports appropriate state and federal legislation aimed at the prevention, investigation and prosecution of child sexual exploitation

**334** Supports appropriate state and federal legislation aimed at reducing or preventing teen pregnancy

**335** Supports the rights of all people with intellectual disabilities

#### AMERICANISM

**2** Supports the Pledge of Allegiance in its current form

**326** Calls for eliminating the awarding of attorney fees in establishment-clause lawsuits

**336** Proper funding and legislation to guarantee U.S. internal security

**337** Encourages legislation establishing English as the official national language

**338** Seeks return of patriotic holidays to traditional dates

**339** Conduct all naturalization ceremonies in English

**340** Supports strict enforcement of employer sanctions for those who knowingly hire illegal aliens

**341** Encourages the necessary government action to stop the massive flow of illegal immigration into the United States



a grassroots group come within one vote of amending the Constitution.”

The American Legion pledged to continue its fight to protect Old Glory, with Bock presenting awards to two champions of the flag amendment: Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, and Citizens Flag Alliance Chairman Maj. Gen. Patrick H. Brady, U.S. Army (retired).

“Together, we made the vast majority of senators and congressmen understand why protecting our flag is so important,” Hatch said. “Your calls, letters and editorials convinced Congress that this issue would not pass into history. Your hard work made the Senate stand up and take notice that the sacrifices of those who have fallen and the service rendered by our nation’s veterans has a symbol – a symbol which is intertwined with the principle of freedom. That symbol is our flag, and once again you have shown your devotion by rallying to the colors.”

“With your continued efforts,” he added, “I believe that we will secure that one additional vote that will send this amendment to the states.”

Brady, a Medal of Honor recipient, received The American Legion’s prestigious Distinguished Service Award. He compared the flag-amendment campaign to an earlier experience he had of landing his helicopter in a Vietnam minefield so the crew could extract wounded soldiers. “We need to rescue our flag and constitution,” Brady said. “Know that you will be entering a minefield. The

media will ridicule and politicians will trivialize this issue. Rip away the cover of those who hide behind a statute. While you are in the minefield, though, be comforted by the fact that Americans are fighting for our rights. You are protected by the right of the people who framed our Constitution – the right to redress our government for grievances. We need one vote. Let’s go get that vote!”

**Return of an Old Friend.** Legionnaires also heard from former House Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., who reminded the audience of the debt America owes its veterans.

“Whether it be full and predictable funding for VA health care, generous compensation for service-connected injury or disease, a lifeline to our homeless vets, or cutting-edge research for spinal cord injuries, PTSD, the blind, Agent Orange-afflicted Vietnam vets, those suffering from Gulf mystery illnesses and depleted uranium ordnance contamination, or those in need of world-class prosthetics, Congress has a sacred obligation to meet those needs,” Smith said.

“During my 24 years of service on the House Veterans Affairs Committee, I am gratified that several Legion-backed landmark laws that I authored continue to provide expanded benefits to vets and their families, although so much more needs to be done,” he said.

The positive working relationship The American Legion enjoyed with the committee during Smith’s

**342** Supports legislation amending the Immigration and Nationality Act

**343** Supports a constitutional amendment permitting voluntary prayer in public buildings

**344** Supports constitutional amendment protecting the U.S. Flag from desecration

**345** Opposes foreign manufacture of U.S. Flags

**346** Urges Congress to oppose legislation that would give conscientious objectors a voice in diverting monies from military spending

**347** Opposes legislation requiring disclosure of sources of secret evidence used in deportation hearings

**348** Opposes amnesty for illegal immigrants

**349** Opposes financial aid for illegal alien students

**350** Encourages Congress to mandate continuation of the former Immigration

and Naturalization Service Student and Exchange Visitor Information System or a similar program to track foreign students

**351** Urges Congress to adopt an immigration policy for the 21st century

**352** Encourages Congress to amend the Temporary Protected Status section of the Immigration Act of 1990

**353** Encourages Congress to provide federal agencies with the resources to track the arrival and departure of foreign visitors to the United States

**354** Encourages Congress to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to allow immigrant spouses of U.S. military personnel who die, whether in training on military installations or overseas in hostile conflict, to continue petition for permanent resident status without the current two-year eligibility restriction

**355** Encourages Congress to establish numerical limits for all immigration categories of temporary workers

**356** Opposes any and all changes to the Oath of Renunciation and Allegiance that would dilute or eliminate any important and necessary elements of the oath

**357** Opposes use of foreign-issued forms of identification

**358** Encourage Congress to enact measures to enforce the Oath of Renunciation and Allegiance

**359** Calls for Congress to act on illegal immigration

**360** Opposes Department of Defense policies that prohibit the chartering of Boy Scout units by components of the U.S. Armed Forces and the use by Boy Scouts of America of Department of Defense installations worldwide

**361** Calls for awarding the Medal of Honor to the four chaplains

**362** Endorses a report by the Center for Immigration Studies titled “Attrition Through Enforcement – A Cost-Effective Strategy to Shrink the Illegal Population”



tenure appears to have diminished, due in part to current Chairman Rep. Steve Buyer's cancellation of The American Legion's fall testimony before a Joint House Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.

"When we testified in September (2005), it was a great event," Bock said. "We had written testimony, a 30-minute oration and an hour of give-and-take about critical veterans issues. Now we have the chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee who says, 'We don't want to hear from them.' He wants to parade nine veterans organizations in front of his committee. The American Legion will participate in a panel and be given five to 10 minutes to deliver our testimony. He says it doubles our opportunity since we get to do it again in February. I say that's not right. Veterans being shut out of Congress is wrong, and The American Legion is not going to stand for it."

VA Secretary Jim Nicholson addressed the VA budget, often a source of contention between the White House and The American Legion. "Our 2007 budget is historic, \$80.6 billion. It is the largest increase in discretionary funding ever requested." He added that veterans health-care funding is almost 70 percent higher than it was when President Bush assumed office.

Nicholson's department weathered heavy criticism last spring after the theft of an employ-

*continued on Page 46*

## ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

### Frank N. Belgrano Jr. Trophy

*For support of Boy Scouts  
Department of Illinois*

### Ralph T. O'Neil Education Trophy

*For showing the greatest  
Americanism activity in use  
of the American Legion  
School Medal Awards  
Department of Florida*

### William Randolph Hearst Americanism Trophy

*San Antonio Express-News*

### Fourth Estate Award for Outstanding Journalism

*Ben Jones, Chief  
The Post-Crescent  
Madison Bureau  
Appleton, Wis.*

### Employer of the Year

*For companies and  
businesses dedicated to  
hiring veterans*

### Small business

*Robert J. Albert Printing  
Service  
Clearwater, Fla.*

### Mid-size business

*ITS Medical Systems LLC  
Duluth, Ga.*

### Large business

*Alutiiq-Wackenhut Security  
Services  
Fort Bragg, N.C.*

### National Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

*Officer Charles M. Roessler  
Milwaukee Police  
Department  
Milwaukee*

### Local Veterans Representative of the Year

*Walter A. Pollock Jr.  
Columbus, Ga.*

### Outstanding Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialist of the Year

*Jerry Roehl  
Boise, Idaho*

### Outstanding Employment Service Office of the Year

*Samuel L. Denson  
Escarosa Career Center  
Veterans Programs  
Pensacola, Fla.*

### Homeless Veterans Outreach Award

*Kent Phelps  
Homeless Veterans Task  
Force Chairman  
Blackfoot, Idaho*

## FOREIGN RELATIONS

**3** Expresses full support for the Republic of Korea (South Korea)

**5** Urges the U.S. government to encourage the parties on both sides of the Taiwan Strait to promote peaceful dialogue and avoid any actions by either side leading to military conflict

**26** Urges the president and Congress to re-energize interagency coordination in support of criteria for unilateral actions by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam regarding POW/MIA issues

**27** Calls for the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to allow U.S. Navy vessels to conduct humanitarian operations related to POW/MIA accounting efforts

**28** Calls on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam's leadership to deliver archival records and documents in relation to POW/MIA issues to the U.S. government prior to the president's visit to Hanoi

**29** Calls for the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) to receive

at least \$60 million in operation funds for POW/MIA accounting efforts

**34** Supports legislation targeting diplomatic, economic and educational programs to promote greater and peaceful democratic reforms in Middle Eastern countries

**35** Urges the president and Congress to speak out on every occasion to expedite the return of U.S. military personnel still missing in action

**36** The American Legion's policy on the United Nations

**37** Supports compelling the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to meet the international standards of human rights

**120** Supports bipartisan policies and legislation that identify areas and authorize and fund programs where the United States can provide economic, political and social development in Africa

**121** The American Legion's foreign-policy objectives

**122** Supports sales of the latest U.S. weapon systems to the Republic of China (Taiwan) of such quality and in such quantities so as to enable it to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability

**123** Supports enhanced funding for the U.S. Agency for International Development

**124** Urges the quick appointment and confirmation of a qualified, high-level and experienced policy person not working in the U.S. government to serve as chairman of the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs

**185** The American Legion's policy on Cuba

**187** Urges the U.S. government to cooperate fully with Latin American nations to destroy the international traffic of illegal drugs

**188** Urges the U.S. government to continue economic aid to friendly, democratic Central American nations





#### Spirit of Service Award Winners

**Navy** Petty Officer 2nd Class Dempsey L. Tomblin  
**Marines** Sgt. Kristianna M. Huntington  
**Coast Guard** Petty Officer 2nd Class Katie S. Anthony  
**Army** Sgt. Renee Kraus  
**Air Force** Master Sgt. John Prato accepting for Senior Airman Edward J. Slavik

James V. Carroll



#### Youth Program Honorees

##### Oratorical Champion

Nicholas Elledge  
 Knoxville, Tenn.

##### Eagle Scout of the Year

Nicholas Coury  
 Glendale, Ariz.

##### Junior Shooting Sports Champion

Thomas Santelli  
 Washington, Pa.

##### Boys Nation President

John M. Taylor  
 Palm Bay, Fla.

##### American Legion

##### Baseball Player of the Year

Jose Fernando Irizarry  
 Montero, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico

Tom Strattman

#### William F. Lenker National Service Trophy

*For best supporting and implementing programs to benefit veterans and their families*

Department of Idaho

#### Garland D. Murphy Jr. Award

*Presented to the most active department, based on actual contributions received during 2005-2006 for The*

*American Legion Child Welfare Foundation*  
 Department of Ohio

#### U.S. "Udie" Grant Legacy Award

*Presented to the top department, based on combined total donations of Legion, Auxiliary, Eight & Forty and SAL for the Child Welfare Foundation*  
 Department of Ohio

#### James V. Day "Good Guy" Award

John Andretti

#### Color Guard Contest Winners

##### Military Class

Post 49 Color Guard,  
 Tilton, N.H.

##### Open Class

Lady Phantoms Unit 109,  
 Vail, Ariz.

#### Advancing/Retrieving Colors Contest

Post 49 Color Guard,  
 Tilton, N.H.

##### Concert Band

Joliet Post 1080, Joliet, Ill.

##### Parade Band

Joliet Post 1080, Joliet, Ill.

##### Band Contest Winner

Joliet Post 1080, Joliet, Ill.

seeking to develop democratic societies with market economies

**191** Calls for allowing the payment of survivors' benefits and any other legally accrued benefits to the non-resident alien spouses and children of U.S. veterans residing in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama

#### INTERNAL AFFAIRS

**6** Supports the creation of the White House Commission on Remembrance

**178** Supports the idea of The American Legion Visitor Center and Memorial on U.S. 281 in Osborne, Kan., without financial obligation to the national organization

#### NATIONAL SECURITY

**9** Supports further development of domestic sources of energy

**11** Calls for comprehensive scientific research and engineering programs for recycling spent nuclear fuel rods

**13** Calls for development of all alternative sources of energy

**18** Urges energy conservation

**19** Calls for the Department of Energy to comply with the requirements of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act

**70** Urges Congress to support the U.S. Air Force's commitment to attract, retain and train quality people

**71** Urges Congress to restore full funding to the NASA budget

**72** Supports the National Space Program

**73** Urges the United States to maintain its status as the world leader in aeronautics and aircraft production and in space exploration and research

**77** Urges DoD to expeditiously issue DD 214s to activated National Guardsmen and reservists upon their demobilization

**78** The American Legion's Total Force policy

**79** Urges DoD, Congress to continue full funding of military commissary system

**81** The American Legion's principles of national security

**82** Reaffirms recognizing that the U.S. Constitution's Second Amendment guarantees each law-abiding American citizen the right to keep and bear arms

**83** Urges the U.S. government to ensure that foreign entities are not permitted to own critical industries, especially those producing defense items

**84** Supports rebuilding the U.S. industrial base

**85** Supports the American Battle Monuments Commission

**86** Calls for the necessary funding and resources to combat the continuing cyberspace and other threats to the United States in the 21st century

**87** The American Legion's recommendations for current and future national-defense budgets



continued from Page 44

ee's computer containing the data of millions of veterans. Although the computer was eventually recovered, The American Legion remains concerned that any compromise of the data could lead to identity theft.

"Breaches such as these are unacceptable by any standard," Nicholson said. "Challenges are also opportunities. We need to overhaul the way we deal with data at the VA."

**Membership Matters.** A direct-mail solicitation program called DMS Plus is one of the reasons American Legion membership is growing again, Bock said. "We will have more members in 2006 than in 2005 because of the DMS Plus program," Bock said. "More than 196,000 brand-new members joined The American Legion because they received a letter in the mail explaining what we were doing and that we were standing up for America. It's exciting, isn't it? The world's largest veterans organization is growing and growing, and we are going to keep it up in 2007."

Although mailed solicitations are effective for the Legion, experts say face-to-face contact is still the best way to gain and keep new members.

The American Legion National Recruiter of the Year is a true believer. "Everybody has their own style," said Frank Carr of Post 99 in Halifax, Va., who led the nation by recruiting 283 members this

year. "Mine is to ask everybody to join. Some people may not look like veterans, but ask anyway. If they are not veterans, their mothers, fathers or somebody they know probably is. Ask anyway."

On the Gulf Coast, members of the Legion family faced the worst natural disaster in U.S. history.

"The National Emergency Fund got a shot last August when Hurricane Katrina and later Rita devastated the Gulf Coast," Bock said. "I stood on a cement floor that used to be an American Legion home. It wasn't a pile of rubble – there was nothing there. The NEF had money going to our members before FEMA even knew the winds were blowing. When it started, we only had \$1.6 million in the fund. Our members raised more than \$2.3 million and we awarded \$2.2 million in grants. I am proud to say we have more money in the fund now than we had a year ago. That is because of the great hearts of veterans. Veterans helping veterans – that's what the Legion is all about."

Assistance in the form of clothes, supplies, money and labor flowed in from all 55 American Legion departments. Louisiana Past Department Commander Ray Walters expressed his gratitude. "This Legion family of ours stood strong. It's because of that the departments of Louisiana and Mississippi still stand," he said. "You directly adopted many of our posts. It makes us very proud to be part of the Legion family."

continued on Page 50

**88** Supports the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences

**89** Urges requiring government contractors to utilize U.S.-made components and subsystems in constructing U.S. Armed Forces equipment

**90** Urges the U.S. government to develop and continue to deploy a national missile-defense system

**91** Urges financial support from the U.S. government for the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home and the reconstruction of the United States Naval Home

**92** Calls for the transformation of the U.S. Armed Forces to a modern force

**93** Fully supports U.S. Armed Forces

**94** Supports full funding for the Department of Homeland Security

**95** Supports the war on terrorism

**96** Calls for retaining National Guard units at reasonable readiness levels

**97** Urges Legionnaires, posts and

departments to assist in Homeland Security efforts

**98** Encourages post and departments to become involved in local Citizen Corps activities

**99** Supports legislation that strengthens U.S. ability to police, investigate and legally prosecute financial institutions or individuals who use legitimate and illegitimate financial means to help support both domestic and international terrorism

**100** The American Legion's recommendations for combating crime in the United States

**101** Urges all Legion departments to establish an annual Department Firefighter of the Year Award

**102** Supports the Jones Act and related maritime cabotage laws

**103** Urge the president and Congress to boost naval budgets, promote commercial shipbuilding, expand the use of U.S. flagships in world

commerce, and resist foreign actions that would further damage the U.S. defense industrial base

**104** Urges Congress to fully fund military and VA health-care programs for beneficiaries and a permanent TRICARE program for Guardsmen and reservists

**105** Supports legislation to insert a clause into the briefing of discharging servicemen and women that make specific reference to veterans service organizations in their civilian communities

**106** The American Legion's policy on military funeral honors

**107** Supports legislation reducing the age requirement from 60 in order to receive reserve retirement pay sooner

**108** Urges full funding for military quality-of-life features for active duty, National Guard, reservists, military retirees, veterans and their dependents, and military survivors



# Released to the Public: Bags of Vintage Buffalo Nickels



*Historic 1920-1938  
"Buffalos" by the Pound*

The First Federal Coin Corp. is releasing to the public bags of original U.S. government Buffalo Nickels not seen in circulation for decades. Now they can be acquired for a limited time only — not as individual collector coins, but by troy weight — **just \$45.95 for a full Troy Quarter-Pound Bag.**

## **100% Valuable Collector Coins — GUARANTEED!**

Every bag will be filled with collectible vintage Buffalos from over 65 years ago, **GUARANTEED!**

- 1920-1929 — "Roaring '20s" Buffalo
- 1930-1938
- Mint Marks (P,D, or S)
- **ALL Collector Grade Very Good Condition**
- **FREE Magnifying Glass**
- **FREE New 2005 Buffalo Nickel**

Every vintage Buffalo Nickel you receive will be a coveted collector coin — **GUARANTEED!** Plus, order a half troy-pound or more and receive a P & D Mintmark set of the new 2005 U.S. Buffalo Nickels. Order a gigantic full troy-pound Bag and you'll also receive a vintage Liberty Head Nickel (1883-1912), a valuable collector classic!

## **Long-Vanished Buffalos Highly Coveted by Collectors**

The government officially melted millions of these vintage Buffalo Nickels, leaving behind only those saved in private hoards and estate collections. These coins are becoming more sought-after each day. In fact, the market price

for Buffalo Nickels has risen 186% in the last five years alone! The design is so popular that the U.S. now has released a brand new coin featuring the magnificent American Buffalo, a symbol of our nation's heritage. You'll get a complete set of these new coins **FREE** with each half troy-pound bag you order. Call today!

## **Supplies Limited — Order Now!**

Supplies of vintage Buffalo Nickels are limited as the availability continues to shrink. They are sure to make a precious gift for your children, family and friends that will be appreciated for a lifetime.

**NOTICE:** Due to recent changes in the prices for vintage U.S. coins, this advertised price may change without notice. Call today to avoid disappointment.

## **30-Day Money-Back Guarantee**

You must be 100% satisfied with your bag of Buffalo Nickels or return it via insured mail within 30 days of receipt for a prompt refund.



**Yours FREE  
with Full  
Pound  
Order!**

## **Order More and SAVE**

**QUARTER TROY POUND Buffalo Nickels**  
Plus **FREE** New 2005 Buffalo Nickel  
Plus **FREE** Magnifying Glass  
\$45.95 + S&H

**HALF TROY POUND Bag**  
Plus **FREE** P&D set New 2005 Buffalo Nickels  
Plus **FREE** Magnifying Glass  
\$79 + S&H — **SAVE \$12.90**

**ONE FULL TROY POUND Bag**  
Plus **FREE** 1883-1912 Liberty Head Nickel  
Plus **FREE** P&D set New 2005 Buffalo Nickels  
Plus **FREE** Magnifying Glass  
\$149 + S&H — **SAVE \$34.80**

**TOLL-FREE 24 HOURS A DAY**

**1-800-895-7267**

Promotional Code BUF132-02

Please mention Promotional Code when you call.



We can also accept your check by phone.  
To order by mail call for details.



**FIRST FEDERAL COIN CORP**

14101 Southcross Drive W., Dept. BUF132-02  
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337

Note: First Federal Coin Corp. is a private distributor of government and private coin and medallion issues and is not affiliated with the United States Government. Past performance is not an indicator of future performance.



# The Parade



James V. Carroll



Tom Strattman

**Left:** Commander Thomas L. Bock and his wife, Elaine, wave as they pass the reviewing stand.

**Above:** American Legion Riders cap their 1,900-mile ride at the Sunday parade.

**Below:** Karina Daghlain, 6, shows flag-waving patriotism.



Tom Strattman

**109** The American Legion's policy on DoD's Force Health Protection

**111** The American Legion policy on the use of depleted uranium

**112** Supports the retention of the Selective Service Registration Program

**113** Urges Congress to authorize and fund DoD in providing permanent TRICARE health care for members of the reserve and their dependents

**114** The American Legion's plan for reforming the military absentee-voting system

**115** Urges Congress to codify eligibility criteria for burial at Arlington National Cemetery

**116** Calls for all future Status of Forces agreements negotiated, renegotiated or revised with host countries to allow for the unimpeded use of all U.S. military facilities by retired U.S. military members and their dependents

**117** Calls for full funding of concurrent receipt for all disabled military retirees

**118** Supports full funding for the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps

**119** Supports the U.S. Coast Guard in its Homeland Security role

**153** Calls for changing the wordage regarding requests for military funeral honors

**169** Fully supports the war on terrorism

**229** Opposes proposed TRICARE fee increases

**366** Identifies key military issues involving state and local governments

**367** Calls for the Army's budget and wartime demands to be fully funded

## VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

**30** Supports the automatic waiver of Veterans Benefits Administration debts of \$250 or less

**62** Requests adequate funding for VA medical and prosthetic research

**63** Opposes reducing eligibility criteria for VA state veterans homes per diem

**64** Support presumption of service connection for Hepatitis C

**65** The American Legion Policy on Gulf War veterans illnesses

**66** Calls for improving the Disability and Death Pension Program

**67** The American Legion policy on VA's community-based outpatient clinics

**130** Recognizes operations in Lebanon (1958), Grenada (1983) and Panama (1989-1990) as periods of war for VA pension purposes

**131** Calls for legislation clarifying "Service in the Republic of Vietnam" for Agent Orange presumption

**132** The American Legion policy on radiation

**133** Supports full funding for VA's construction program

**134** The American Legion policy on prostate cancer research and treatment

**135** Supports Medicare reimbursement for VA





**Left:** Good Guy Award winner John Andretti waves to bystanders during the American Legion Parade in Salt Lake City. Andretti was honored for his work with the Citizens Flag Alliance in promoting the flag amendment.

**Right:** American Legion 76 Freedom Car driver Jerick Johnson revs up his Chevrolet Monte Carlo to the delight of parade observers.

**Below:** A trombone player from Joliet American Legion Band Post 1080 marches past the reviewing stand.



**136** Calls for a revision of work-rate standards for VA adjudicators

**138** Supports legislation to place Mariner Medal recipients in Priority Group 3 for VA health care

**139** The American Legion policy on VA nursing-home capacity

**141** Supports enactment of remaining main components of GI Bill of Health

**142** Calls for amending the eligibility requirements and extending the eligibility time period for Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance

**143** The American Legion policy on the state veterans home program

**145** The American Legion policy on VA National Service Life Insurance

**146** The American Legion policy on VA pharmacy benefits

**147** Seeks legislation to indefinitely extend the presumptive period for service connection of Gulf War veterans with undiagnosed illnesses

**148** The American Legion policy on VA mental-health services

**149** The American Legion position on attorney representation before VA

**150** The American Legion policy on opening the federal supply schedule for pharmaceuticals to Medicare and Medicaid

**214** Supports legislation to give VA the authority to enroll World War II veterans in Priority Group 6

**218** Seeks legislation to establish amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) as a condition presumed to be service-connected in Gulf War veterans

**219** The American Legion policy on the correction of military records

**220** Supports enhanced VA rural health care

**221** Seeks legislation to establish Feb. 28, 1961, as the beginning date of the Vietnam War for VA benefit purposes

**238** Seeks legislation to exempt income

received from jury duty and income from service as an election judge in determining the VA pension rate

**239** Seeks legislation to exempt all Purple Heart recipients who are enrolled in the VA health-care system from any drug prescription co-payment

**240** Seeks increasing the maximum coverage under the Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance Program

**242** Calls for removing the specific date to award dependency and indemnity compensation benefits to surviving spouses of former prisoners of war

**243** Calls for allowing beneficiaries to retain \$90 of their benefits while in Medicaid-covered nursing homes

**244** Seeks legislation to reduce the number of years a veteran must be rated 100 percent from 10 years to five years for eligibility to DIC payments

**245** Supports an increase in the SMC(k) award from \$87 to \$598



continued from Page 46

**3.2.1. Yankee Doodle Dandy.** As the remaining seconds of Bock's term evaporated, the 2,974 delegates unanimously cast their votes for Paul A. Morin of Massachusetts to assume command of The American Legion.

Morin, a member of Aldenville American Legion Post 337, is superintendent of the Soldier's Home in Holyoke, Mass., and will take leave to fulfill his duties to the Legion. His experience there and as a former chairman of the Legion's Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission gives him the necessary expertise to effectively communicate with Washington leaders on critical veterans issues.

"I have every intention of providing a strong voice for our organization," Morin said in his acceptance speech. "Mr. President, Mr. Secretary and members of Congress, you will not stop this commander from speaking for what is right for America's veterans. They have earned it, they deserve it, and The American Legion will fight for it!"

Like his predecessors, Morin pledged to continue the fight to protect the flag. "Yes, members of the U.S. Senate, we will not go away," he vowed. "We will be back until the day you pass a constitutional amendment to protect our flag. We, the people, have the right to vote on a constitutional amendment to protect Old Glory, and you will not deter this commander from pursuing that goal."

Morin concluded his speech by summing up his



Newly elected Sons of the American Legion Commander Earl Ruttkofsky, Auxiliary National President JoAnn Cronin and American Legion National Commander Paul A. Morin thank convention delegates. *Tom Strattman*

vision for the upcoming Legion year. "My motto for the year is, 'Back to the basics, and together we win!' I pledge we will improve access to quality health care for our veterans. I pledge that we will continue to nurture the spirit of our nation's children. I further pledge that The American Legion will do what is right for America, and with those accomplishments our ranks will grow. As your commander, I pledge to serve with honor and respect for our great organization and those who have come before me. I also promise to carry the voice of America's veterans to the halls of Congress."

Sounds like another busy 31.5 million seconds. 🌿

*John Raughter is editor of The American Legion Magazine.*

**252** Calls for extending the filing period of an appeal notice to the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims

**253** States CARES decision must take into consideration and sustain VA's ability to perform its fourth mission as a back up to DoD

**254** The American Legion policy on assured funding for VA medical care

**255** The American Legion policy on VA compensation

**256** Encourages Congress to enact legislation to give VA the authority to include ill Gulf War veterans in Priority Group 6

**257** The American Legion policy on former prisoners of war

**262** The American Legion policy on Agent Orange

**265** Opposes legislation authorizing Legion-accredited representatives to develop claims

**270** Supports legislation to exempt VA benefits and services provided to service-connected disabled veterans, their dependents and survivors from the pay-as-you-go provision of the Budget Enforcement Act

**272** Opposes increased co-payments and an enrollment fee for Priority Groups 7 and 8 veterans

**273** Urges DoD to consider all new information that surfaces and to disclose any new developments related to Project 112/SHAD in a most timely manner

**274** The American Legion policy on tobacco-related disabilities

**299** Opposes lump-sum payments of VA disability compensation

**310** Recommends that Section 110 of Title 38, U.S. Code, be amended to provide that disability evaluations continuously in effect at that same evaluation rate be protected after a

period of 10 years

**311** Calls for extending presumptive period for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) to seven years

**312** Urges including VA in all strategic planning of the Department of Homeland Security

**313** The American Legion policy on the National Cemetery Administration

**314** Seeks legislation to return the burial allowances and burial plot allowance to all veterans who served during a time of war or conflict

**363** Urges Social Security benefits and veterans disability benefits remain separate and subject to separate rules

**364** Urges more intense congressional oversight of VA's compliance with security protection laws

**365** Endorses the efforts of Indiana-Ohio Center for Traumatic Amputation Rehabilitation Research researchers



# AS HEARD ON PAUL HARVEY NEWS

## New advanced portable heater can cut your heating bill up to 50%

### Heats a large room in minutes with even heat wall to wall and floor to ceiling

### Does not get hot, cannot start a fire and will not reduce humidity or oxygen

#### Never be cold again

A new advanced quartz infrared portable heater, the EdenPURE®, can cut your heating bills by up to 50%.

You have probably heard about the remarkable EdenPURE® as heard on Paul Harvey News and on television features across the nation.

The EdenPURE® can pay for itself in a matter of weeks and then start putting a great deal of extra money in your pocket after that.

A major cause of residential fires in the United States is portable heaters. But the EdenPURE® cannot cause a fire. That is because the quartz infrared heating element never gets to a temperature that can ignite anything.

The outside of the EdenPURE® only gets warm to the touch so that it will not burn children or pets. Pets can sleep on it when it is operating without harm.

The advanced space-age EdenPURE® Quartz Infrared Portable Heater also heats the room evenly, wall-to-wall and floor-to-ceiling. And, as you know, portable heaters only heat an area a few feet around the heater.

Unlike other heating sources, the EdenPURE® cannot put poisonous carbon monoxide into a room or any type of fumes or any type of harmful radiation.

#### Q. What is the origin of this amazing heating element in the EdenPURE®?

A. This advanced heating element was discovered accidentally by a man named John Jones.

#### Q. What advantages does infrared quartz tube heating source have over other heating source products?

A. John Jones designed his heating source around the three most important consumer benefits: economy, comfort, and safety.

In the EdenPURE® system, electricity is used to generate infrared light which, in turn, creates a



**Cannot start a fire; a child or animal can touch or sit on it without harm**



very safe heat.

After a great deal of research and development, very efficient infrared heat chambers were developed that utilize three unique patented solid copper heat exchangers in one EdenPURE® heater.

#### Q. How can a person cut their heating bill by up to 50% with the EdenPURE®?

A. The EdenPURE® will heat a room in minutes. Therefore, you can turn the heat down in your house to as low as 50 degrees, but the room you are occupying, which has the EdenPURE®, will be warm and comfortable. The EdenPURE® is portable. When you move to another room, it will quickly heat that room also. This can drastically cut heating bills, in some instances, by up to 50%.

The EdenPURE® comes

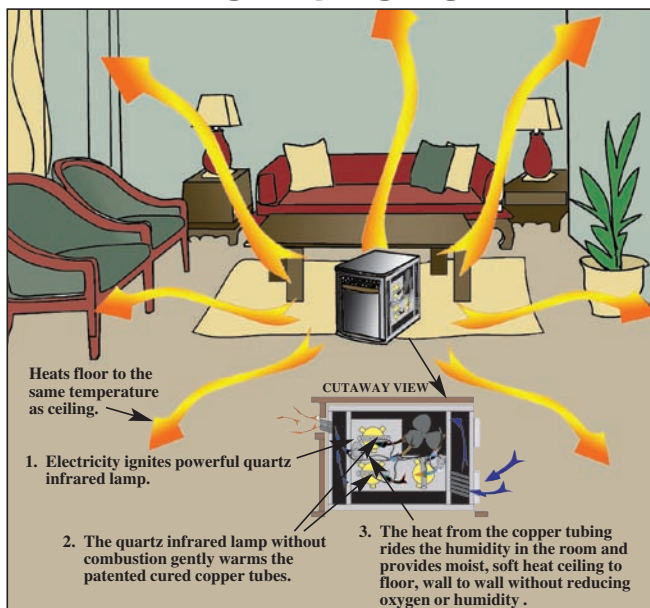
in 2 models. Model 500 heats a room up to 300 square feet and Model 1000 heats a room up to 1,000 square feet.

#### End of interview.

The EdenPURE® will pay for itself in weeks. It will put a great deal of extra money in a users pocket. Because of today's spiraling gas, oil, propane, and other energy costs, the EdenPURE® will provide even greater savings as the time goes by.

Readers who wish can obtain the EdenPURE® Quartz Infrared Portable Heater at a \$75 discount if they order in the next 10 days. Please see the Special Readers Discount Coupon on this page. For those readers ordering after 10 days from the date of this publication, we reserve the right to either accept or reject order requests at the discounted price.

#### How it works:



#### SPECIAL READER'S DISCOUNT COUPON

The price of the EdenPURE® Model 500 is \$372 plus \$17 shipping for a total of \$389 delivered. The Model 1000 is \$472 plus \$27 shipping and handling for a total of \$499 delivered. People reading this publication get a \$75 discount with this coupon and pay only \$297 delivered for the Model 500 and \$397 delivered for the Model 1000 if you order within 10 days. The EdenPURE® comes in the decorator color of black with burled wood accent which goes with any decor. There is a strict limit of 3 units at the discount price - no exceptions please.

Check below which model and number you want:

- ☐ Model 500, number \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Model 1000, number \_\_\_\_\_
- To order by phone, call TOLL FREE 1-800-284-9557 Ext. EPH2870. Place your order by using your credit card. Operators are on duty 24 hours, 7 days.
  - To order online, log on to [www.edenpure.com](http://www.edenpure.com)
  - To order by mail, by check or credit card, fill out and mail in this coupon.

This product carries a 60-day satisfaction guarantee. If you are not totally satisfied, your purchase price will be refunded. No questions asked. There is also a one year warranty.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

Check below to get discount:

- ☐ I am ordering within 10 days of the date of this publication, therefore I get a \$75 discount and my price is only \$297 for Model 500 and \$397 for Model 1000 delivered.
- ☐ I am ordering past 10 days of the date of this publication, therefore I pay shipping and handling and full price totaling \$389 for Model 500 and \$499 for Model 1000.

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ in: ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Money Order

(Make check payable to BioTech Research) or charge my:

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Am. Exp./Optima ☐ Discover/Novus

Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:** BioTech Research Dept. EPH2870  
7800 Whipple Ave. N.W.  
Canton, OH 44767



## Roster for a New Legion Year

### Robert C. Lahiere

#### National Vice Commander – Central Region



**Home:** Chattanooga, Tenn. **Membership:** 52 years, Post 14

**Military service:** Retired, U.S. Army and U.S. Army Reserve

**Occupation:** Retired

**Legion highlights:** Post Cmdr., 1966-1967; Dept. Cmdr., 1968-1969

**National positions:** Americanism Cncl., 1987-1988; Emblem Cmte., 1988-1990; Foreign Relations Cncl., 1991-1993 and 1996-1997; Legislative Cncl., 2001-2002 and 2005-2006; Public

Relations Cmsn., 2002-2003; Distinguished Guests Cmte., 2004; American Legion Insurance Cmte., 2005-2006

**Region:** Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee, Wisconsin

### Allan C. Stetterberg

#### National Vice Commander – Western Region



**Home:** Sandy, Utah

**Membership:** 39 years, Post 77

**Military service:** U.S. Army, 1968-1970; U.S. Army Reserve, 1970-1974

**Occupation:** Head school custodian

**Legion highlights:** Post Cmdr., 1977 and 1982; Dept. Cmdr., 2001-2002

**National positions:** Mbrshp. & Post Activ. Cmte., 1999-2006; Americanism Cmsn., 2000-2006; Alt. NEC Memb. 2004-2006

**Region:** Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Mexico, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Philippines, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

### Elgin L. Wahlborg

#### National Vice Commander – Midwest Region



**Home:** Arkansas City, Kan.

**Membership:** 16 years, Post 18

**Military service:** U.S. Army, 1959-1962; Kansas National Guard, 1962-1965

**Occupation:** Retired

**Legion highlights:** Post Cmdr., 1996-1997; Dept. Cmdr., 2001-2002

**National positions:** Security Cmte., 2003-2005; Alt. NEC Memb. 2004-2006; Security Cmsn., 2005-2006

**Region:** Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas

### Lloyd H. Woods

#### National Vice Commander – Northeast Region



**Home:** Stockholm, Maine

**Membership:** 32 years, Post 136

**Military service:** U.S. Navy, 1965-1969

**Occupation:** Retired

**Legion highlights:** Post 136 Cmdr., 1996-1999; Dept. Cmdr., 2005-2006

**National positions:** Security Cncl., 1999-2002; Veterans Preference Cmte., 2002-2005

**Region:** Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine,

Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont

### Byron W. White

#### National Vice Commander – Southeast Region



**Home:** Tuscaloosa, Ala.

**Membership:** 21 years, Post 123

**Military service:** Retired, U.S. Army

**Occupation:** Retired

**Legion highlights:** Post Cmdr., 1997-1999; Dept. Cmdr., 2004-2005

**National positions:** Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Cmte., 2004-2006

**Region:** Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, France, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia

### Joseph M. Steen



#### National Sergeant-at-Arms

**Home:** Wilmington, Mass.

**Membership:** 28 years, Post 136

**Military service:** U.S. Air Force, 1951-1955

**Occupation:** Retired

**Legion highlights:** Post Cmdr., 1983-1985 and 2000-2006; Dept. Cmdr., 1996-1997

**National positions:** Americanism Cncl., 1996-2003; Legislative Cmsn., 1998-1999; Distinguished Guests Cmte., 1999-2001; Constitution and Bylaws Cmte., 2003-2006

### Stan Gruneich



#### National Chaplain

**Home:** Flandreau, S.D.

**Membership:** 22 years, Post 70

**Military service:** U.S. Army, 1970-1979

**Occupation:** EMT,

minister

**Legion highlights:** Post Cmdr., 1991-1992 and 2001-2003; Dept. Chaplain, 1992-2006

**National positions:** Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Cmte., 2001-2006

### Michael J. Miskell



#### National Historian

**Home:** Scranton, Pa.

**Membership:** 10 years, Post 966

**Military service:** U.S. Navy, 1968-1972

**Occupation:** Case worker for homeless

**Legion highlights:** Dept. Historian, 2004-2005; Post Cmdr., 2005-2006

**National positions:** Americanism Cncl., 2006; Mbrshp. & Post Activ. Cmte., 2006

### Mark A. Avis



#### Aide to the National Commander

**Home:** Palmer, Mass.

**Membership:** 33 years, Post 130

**Military service:** U.S. Army, 1971-1973

**Occupation:** Retired

**Legion highlights:** Post Cmdr., Dept. Cmdr. 2000-2001

**National positions:** Alt. NEC Memb., 2001-2003; NEC Memb., 2003-2005

*Photos by James V. Carroll*



# Only Vacurect™ Restores Intimacy So Easily!



Paul M. Berger, MD - Urologist  
Allentown, Pennsylvania



"In the past I have prescribed traditional vacuum erection devices for my patients. These traditional systems required a substantial amount of physical coordination from the patient, as well as time and effort from my staff to instruct the patient on how to use the system correctly. When I discovered the VACURECT™, I realized I had found a VED that is truly a breakthrough in vacuum therapy treatment. Developed to eliminate the problems inherent in traditional vacuum therapy systems, the VACURECT™ simplifies the entire process for the patient, and in my opinion is the best VED on the market. The VACURECT™ is provided by BONRO Medical Inc, who provides excellent customer service, and strives to always 'Cater to Their Customer's Needs'."

## The Difference is in the Design

## Approved Treatment by Medicare & Other Insurance Programs

If you're one of the more than 30 million men in the U.S. experiencing Erectile Dysfunction (ED), you may have heard of—perhaps even tried—a Vacuum Erection Device (VED). What you may not know, however is that only **RX Vacurect™** utilizes the most current technology available in vacuum therapy treatment today.

In fact, the **RX Vacurect™** technology difference is so significant, it's backed by a **30-day 100% money-back guarantee**. And here's why:

**Discreet One-Piece Design** – **RX Vacurect™** is smaller, lighter, and requires no complicated assembly. As a result, it's not only the easiest system to use, but it also allows more intimacy.

**Effortless Tension System Technology** – The **RX Vacurect™** tension system is easier to apply and requires no hand strength or physical coordination. Better yet, the **RX Vacurect™** tension systems **last longer** and are **less expensive to replace**.

Developed by a U.S. Armed Forces Veteran who knows ED and has over 20 years of experience in vacuum therapy research and development, **RX Vacurect™** is FDA-registered and **Covered by Medicare and most other Insurance Companies**. Equally important, **RX Vacurect™** is **less expensive** than competitor systems which are still using outdated, clumsy technology.

[www.BONRO.com](http://www.BONRO.com)



So why settle for less than the best that vacuum therapy has to offer? If you want the most compact, reliable and easiest to use VED available on the market today, discover the **RX Vacurect™** difference!

For more details or to receive your **FREE Patient Information/Starter Kit**, call us Toll Free at **(877) 266-7699**.

**This is Not a Paid Endorsement**

AL11.06	
YES, please tell me more about the revolutionary Vacurect™	
Name	_____
Address	_____
City	_____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone	_____
Please Fax: (706) 210-4740, or mail completed coupon to: BONRO Medical Inc, P.O. Box 1880, Evans, GA 30809	



# A Marriage Made in Hell

*Out of the hell that was Hurricane Katrina may come one of VA's most historic partnerships.*

BY JEFF STOFFER

Sixty-eight-year-old Charity Hospital in downtown New Orleans, a public-health institution that has treated poor and under-insured patients for generations, was transformed into a powerless hulking shell in September 2005. Hurricane Katrina howled through its 21 stories. A noxious bisque of oily floodwaters lapped at its flanks for more than three weeks, leaving a ring still visible a year later. The lower level was swamped, destroying the electrical and mechanical systems. Mold and bacteria took over. In the days that followed Katrina's summary condemnation of Charity Hospital and almost everything near it, patients were evacuated to a U.S. Navy ship, then to Air Force tents on the surface of a parking lot, before outpatient and emergency services finally landed in a vacated Lord & Taylor department store. Inpatient care, like much of the city's population, was scattered everywhere – to other hospitals, other cities, even other states.

By the hurricane's first anniversary in late August, vast residential swaths of New Orleans remained a tangle of uprooted trees, high weeds, broken glass and collapsed houses, some of which displayed spray-painted messages damning insurance policies that didn't cover flooding.

The Louisiana State University-run Charity Hospital, however, found itself in a position of great hope a year

## VA HEALTH CARE

### A System Worth Saving

***This is the fifth in a series on the status of VA's Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services process. CARES looked 20 years into the future of the nation's largest managed-care program and envisioned greater access, lower costs and increased efficiency. Two years later, that vision awaits final decisions and federal funding necessary to fulfill the program's many promises across the nation.***

**ABOVE:** Dr. Cathi Fontenot of LSU-run Charity Hospital in downtown New Orleans describes plans for a joint medical facility with VA as "absolutely necessary" to restore health-care services in the hurricane-battered city. *Jeff Stoffer*



after the hurricane. A unique partnership to build a brand-new medical complex jointly with the Department of Veterans Affairs, which also lost its downtown hospital to Katrina, was coming together fast, a proverbial silver lining following one of America's most terrible storms.

"This is our opportunity to do it right, from the ground up," said Dr. Cathi Fontenot, medical director for LSU's Medical Center of Louisiana at New Orleans, the umbrella over Charity Hospital. "We are talking about a new and improved version. This new replacement facility is not only absolutely necessary to continue to provide patient-care services that we all have been accustomed to. It's also necessary to support the academic institutions. This collaborative effort will speak to both. Doing it smarter, better and more efficiently than we have in the past is, I think, everyone's goal."

By last summer, LSU's medical school and VA – longtime collaborators in the delivery of veterans health care in New Orleans – were well along in their plans to pool their money, buy land and build a modern new facility together. Such a partnership is unprecedented in the history of VA, which for decades has benefited from medical-school affiliations that have fed tens of thousands of visiting research doctors, residents, interns, nurses and other caregivers into veterans health-care facilities across the country. The New Orleans VA system has a particularly robust med-school affiliation program; LSU, Tulane University and other institutions allocate more than 500 care providers a year to the VA system. "We are very fortunate to have both medical schools here," says William Detweiler of New Orleans, a past national commander of The American Legion. "There are other states where they don't have a medical school associated with its VA hospital. Here we have two – and we always have – plus a nursing school."

Last summer, LSU and VA targeted a 37-acre property where flood-ruined apartments could be razed, just a few blocks north of the old hospitals. Planners envisioned bed towers that would segregate VA patients from others in a facility connected by common services and a linking corridor. The cost-saving benefits – estimated at \$400 million for VA over 30 years – would come from sharing agreements on such needs as power, parking, laundry, food, maintenance, and big-ticket medical equipment and operation.

The New Orleans VA-LSU feasibility study followed the "Charleston Model," patterned after negotiations between the Medical University of South Carolina and the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center, which are working toward a joint

facility in downtown Charleston, S.C. Ironically, it may not be Charleston but New Orleans – where urgent need and availability of emergency funds have sped the process along – that uses the Charleston Model to cut the ribbon on America's first combined VA-med school facility.

Equally significant is that New Orleans could have the first new VA medical center built in nearly 20 years anywhere in the United States, at a time when veterans in Las Vegas, Denver and Orlando, Fla., have been fighting with Washington for budget commitments on long-overdue VA hospitals for years. Las Vegas, Denver and Orlando were identified as the three highest priorities for new VA medical centers when the landmark Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services decision was released in 2004. So far, only one of those projects, Las Vegas, has received anything more than design and site-selection funding. And the half-funded Las Vegas VA Medical Center was passed over in the 2007 budget. New Orleans was not identified by CARES, although the hospital's age and design make it a poster child for what former VA Secretary Anthony Principi called in his CARES decision "legacy infrastructure" where VA facilities nationwide exceed 50 years in average age and have grown "out of step with changes in the practice of medicine."

The federal share of the New Orleans project – about \$675 million – is already appropriated.

The New Orleans study group followed the Charleston Model to plow through details like running a hospital on state and federal budgets, legal and staffing issues, and keeping VA's identity separate in a facility shared with non-veterans. One key benefit of a joint facility is the opportunity to fast-forward both the 1950-built VA medical center and the 1939-built Charity Hospital out of their high-rise, inpatient-centered buildings and catch them up with the outpatient care revolution. Both the New Orleans VA and Charity Hospital were built at a time when going to the hospital typically meant long, multi-night stays in cavernous wings of many rooms. Katrina, for all the harm it caused, gave both facilities a chance to start over in a building that more closely matches the stop-and-go way in which 21st-century health care is delivered, divided almost evenly between inpatient and outpatient services.

"Both our institutions would benefit from savings and efficiencies by working together," VA Secretary Jim Nicholson said after the feasibility study was released. "Most importantly, Louisiana veterans would receive world-class medical care in a modern, conveniently located site."

### VA shines in time of crisis

Amid all the breakdowns between the government and the people of New Orleans during and after Hurricane Katrina, the Department of Veterans Affairs distinguished itself locally and nationally as a leader through the crisis. From the successful evacuation of patients to the deployment of medical staff to assist other hospitals in the city, VA showed more agility and ability than one might expect from a federal bureaucracy.

"Leadership, planning and professional training came to the fore in the face of almost overwhelming adversity," reported Michael Suter of New York, a member of The American Legion's System Worth Saving Task Force, which inspected the Southeastern Louisiana VA Health Care System in New Orleans last February.

"Key to the situation, and where other institutions fell down, was communications," Suter reported, noting that VA's police communications system and quick response by Central Office in Washington were critical to the New Orleans medical center's performance in the disaster.

"Transportation was the other critical factor. Finding any way out once the waters had risen was a challenge, particularly given the scarcity of rolling stock (most of the city buses were inundated). But in a masterstroke worked out somehow between the facility's director and Washington, military vehicles were provided through the National Guard and were able to rescue all patients and staff."

VA successfully evacuated all 241 patients in the medical center during the flood, plus 272 employees and 342 family members. The Michigan Air National Guard sent two C-130s and 15 members of its 171st Airlift Squadron to evacuate the majority of patients to Houston.

Within a week of the disaster, VA also had all of its area community-based outpatient facilities and five mobile clinics up and running.

Last July, about 150 VA health-care workers were filling in at community hospitals around the city, helping cover a shortage of personnel at non-VA facilities, including nurses, radiology technicians, respiratory therapists and others.



Floodwaters gushed through lower-level windows of the New Orleans VA Medical Center after Hurricane Katrina struck.

*Phil Boogaert*

And so, Fontenot's face grows stern when discussing testimony delivered by one member of Congress in a House Veterans Affairs Committee hearing last spring. U.S. Rep. Richard Baker, R-La., cautioned lawmakers that while an LSU-VA partnership "presents itself as an exciting opportunity," LSU may have more to gain from the project than does VA. Baker quoted from a study that described the LSU-run Charity system as "detrimental to the health of all Louisianans and is likely an important reason for the lower system quality, both in the public and private sector." He added that a joint LSU-VA venture "would be like entering into a three-way partnership in a real-estate development, and the third partner is bankrupt." He called on VA to closely examine Charity and seek reforms to ensure an equal partnership.

To that, Fontenot simply says, "I would invite Mr. Baker to debate this at any time. It is a false statement. There are people who equate that

Louisiana is 49th or 50th in health-care outcomes with the fact that Louisiana has a very unique Charity system that is supported and funded by the state. There are people who say one equals the other. In fact, our disease-management programs are way ahead of most people in the country: diabetes, asthma, heart failure, breast- and cervical-cancer screenings. Bring up all those measures, and we fare extremely well."

In the months following Hurricane Katrina, however, Charity was barely faring at all as an inpatient hospital. Like all other hurricane-hammered health-care facilities in the city, it was thrown into survival mode. "Pretty much all the institutions were wiped out," Fontenot said. Tulane University's hospital, the other major player in the downtown medical market, was first to stir back to life. LSU and VA opened clinics at various locations around the city but still lacked independent inpatient care a year after the storm. Charity's sister facility, LSU's University Hospital, was nearly finished with a 200-bed renovation and was set to reopen late last summer, a temporary fix to help pick up a Charity Hospital patient load that before Katrina accounted for some 270,000 clinical and 130,000 emergency-room visits a year.

Demonstrators stood outside Charity in the months after Katrina and demanded the popular public hospital be reopened immediately. Some, including a former Charity emergency-room doctor, claimed damage reports were overblown and that



# UnitedHealth Rx Medicare Prescription Drug Plans — Learn how to enroll today!

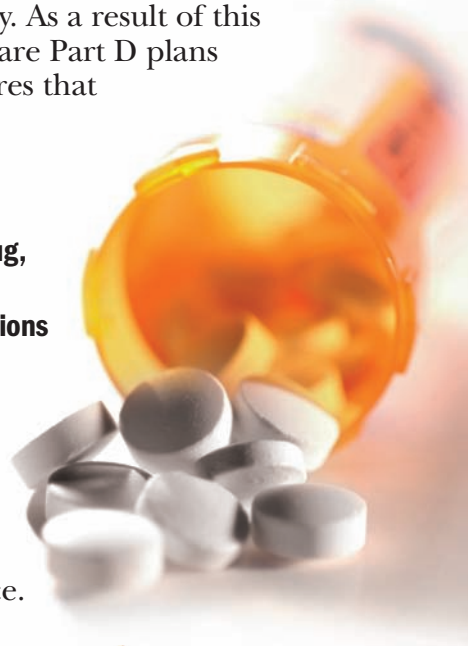
**New Plan  
Options in  
2007!**

## ***Formerly Prescription Solutions from PacifiCare***

Earlier this year, PacifiCare merged with UnitedHealth Group, one of the largest and most admired health care companies in the country. As a result of this merger, we are excited to offer UnitedHealth Rx Medicare Part D plans for 2007. The UnitedHealth Rx plans provide the features that matter most to you:

- **Predictable and affordable, flat copays**
- **No annual deductible**
- **Our formulary includes every brand-name prescription drug, or its generic version, covered by Medicare Part D**
- **Additional savings through our Preferred Mail Service options**
- **Over 60,000 network pharmacies**

If you are already enrolled in one of the Prescription Solutions plans from PacifiCare you're automatically enrolled for 2007. If you're undecided about joining a plan or are looking into options, find out how the new UnitedHealth Rx plans provide peace of mind through affordable and simple-to-use prescription drug insurance.



**UnitedHealth Rx™**



American  
Legion  
Approved

**2007 Annual Enrollment begins  
November 15th and ends December 31st**

**Call today to learn how to enroll:**

**1-800-811-5376**

**TTY: 1-800-730-9550**

9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. CT, Monday – Friday

These Medicare Prescription Drug Plans (PDPs) are insured by United HealthCare Insurance Company or United HealthCare Insurance Company of New York for New York residents (together called "UnitedHealthcare"). UnitedHealthcare contracts with the Federal government as a PDP sponsor.

with some work and political will, the facility could resume services sooner rather than later. A jointly built LSU-VA hospital would not be ready for patients until late 2011. That's a long time to wait for patients who, Detweiler points out, "have grown up in this town and have never gone to another facility besides Charity, for anything."

Pre-Katrina, Charity was known locally "as the true safety net of the safety net," Fontenot said. "There were certain services available at Charity in New Orleans that were not available for poor people anywhere else in the state. Our drawing area was not only regional, but it was statewide."

Much of the pressure at Charity came in the form of unscheduled visits. "Historically, much of our patient population has just shown up in the emergency room, whether it was for a sore throat or an acute (myocardial infarction)," Fontenot explained, adding that a stronger outpatient presence – much like VA's community-based clinic system – would help solve that problem. "If you begin to decentralize and deliver more primary care in the communities, then you don't have to treat the acute stroke because you have already been treating the hypertension for years. You don't have to treat the diabetic renal failure because you have already addressed the diabetes in clinics. We know how to deliver that care. The real challenge is getting the patients to buy into it, rather than depending on, 'Oh, I don't have to keep that doctor's appointment. If I get sick, I'll just go to the emergency department.'"

Meanwhile, Katrina forced the 55-year-old New Orleans VA medical center to squeeze most of its clinical services onto two floors of former nursing-home space above a parking garage; everything else was destroyed. "The predictions were that patients would not come back," said Julie Catellier, deputy director for disaster recovery in the Southeast Louisiana VA Health Care System. "Actually, about 75 percent of our pre-Katrina veterans have returned, and more than 50 a day are enrolling with us. VA patients don't want to get their care anywhere else."

"It's amazing to me that VA has come back as much as it has with as much work as they needed to do," said James Uzarski, a Vietnam War Army veteran who has come back. He noticed the make-shift clinic above the parking garage was getting crowded with patients last summer and said VA can't delay plans to restore full hospital services. "They need to do whatever is quickest."

Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., a member of the VA-Military Construction Appropriations Subcommittee, announced in late July that construction of

a new VA medical center in New Orleans was authorized, to be funded from the \$19.8 billion 4th Hurricane Supplemental Appropriations Bill, passed a month earlier. Landrieu's announcement did not mention the LSU partnership. It focused more on the urgency of restoring VA services. "Now the veteran population is returning to pre-hurricane levels, and it is imperative that we have a facility that can accommodate the men and women who have fought so hard for Louisiana and the country." A new VA hospital could be expected to serve more than 39,000 veterans and provide more than 1,700 jobs, she added.

Pre-Katrina construction estimates for a new Charity Hospital topped \$800 million. Some calculate the cost of a new combined Charity-VA complex at more than \$1.2 billion.

Construction is authorized, federal funding has been appropriated, and confidence is high that a new hospital is one good thing that could come from the horror of Hurricane Katrina. The disaster also provided a lesson. "One of the big issues we faced was how we would build this to sustain another hurricane, if that happens in the future," Catellier said. "We went into it with the assumption that in the event of another major hurricane, we would build this one so we could just stay in it. We would have enough water, food, waste disposal, fuel – all those things – for eight days. We would become a refuge for the city and its patients. We would have a helipad, and we are looking at a boat ramp to get things in and out. It would all be a minimum of 15 feet above sea level.

"It's the VA's desire to be the engine that drives health care in the city of New Orleans and the metropolitan area. We want to be leaders. We want to provide a futuristic, high-tech, high-touch institution for veterans, in collaboration with our affiliated partners."

In the hearing last May before the House Veterans Affairs Committee, the question was not how to build a new VA medical center in New Orleans, but if it should be done there at all. "From an efficiency standpoint, it makes sense," Rep. Charlie Melancon, D-La., told his fellow lawmakers. "From a fiscal standpoint, it makes sense. And from a moral standpoint – after everything these Gulf Coast veterans have endured with these storms – it makes sense. This is a historic partnership for historic times." 🌿

**Next: Denver**

*Jeff Stoffer is managing editor of The American Legion Magazine.*



# “Feel Sexually Healthy... Right Now!”

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing to thank you for the wonderful effect your product, MAXODERM Connection has had on my marriage.

My husband and I have 2 children and life is hectic to say the least. Although I love my husband very much, **our feelings toward each other have gone from passionate to “compassionate”**. Intimacy is certainly not a term we're very familiar with these days. We both seem to be so run down at the end of the day, that neither of us have the urge to “get started”. I was even concerned that one of us or both for that matter were beginning to suffer from a more physical problem with sexual intimacy.

I decided to take the matter into my own hands and do some research. I found that minor issues with sexual intimacy, such as a lack of desire and arousal, can be easily helped by introducing new and safe methods of stimulation to the relationship. **When I found your MAXODERM Connection on the web, I knew that I found an answer. Your site explained how your TOPICAL formula goes to work instantly upon application to drastically increase stimulation and sensation.** Although, I was not sure what my husband would think, I decided to give it a try.

**WOW! The results were simply amazing! First, since it's applied topically so there's no waiting for something to happen.** With MAXODERM Connection, you feel it working instantly - unlike swallowing a pill! I've read that as little as 5% of the pill's ingredients actually make it into your system and often take at least 3 – 4 weeks to work. And because MAXODERM Connection is an herbal formula, you don't need a prescription! With MAXODERM Connection, we were actually able to enjoy the application process and we literally felt like newlyweds again. Not only was the effects exhilarating for me, but **my husband felt “more virile” than he'd felt in years.** I've also had some of my friends try it with their husbands – they can't thank me enough.

You hear so much these days about herbal pills that claim to do this and claim to do that. We didn't want to just take a pill. We wanted something that was not only going to enhance our arousal and desire, but also bring something fun to the bedroom. We found it with your product and now we're not going to lose it again. I have to say I've never felt so SEXUALLY HEALTHY in my life!

Thank you for making a product that's had such an impact on the BOTH of us.

*Alison*

Alison M.  
Dallas, TX

P.S., Let your readers know I'm pretty sure they can still get a **FREE MONTH SUPPLY** of Maxoderm Connection with their order by calling **1-800-533-3416** or by visiting their website at [www.maxodermct.com](http://www.maxodermct.com), and **FOR A LIMITED TIME**, you can still get **\$100 worth of FREE GIFTS** with your order that are yours to keep - no questions asked. Oh and even better, their product is backed by a **90 Day Full Money Back Guarantee.**

Individual results may vary. These statements have not been evaluated by the FDA.  
This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. AL1106



“ Not only was the effect exhilarating for me, but my husband felt ‘more virile’ than he'd felt in years. ”



From the Makers of



[VETERANS DAY]

# SPIRIT OF VICTORY

***"The swift triumph of our arms and those of our gallant allies which two years ago gave us the victory, the anniversary of which we observe today, marks the highlight of the present century in American affairs. Victories such as Armistice Day commemorates are not the issues solely of clashes of flesh and steel. They have a finer quality than that. They are the triumphs, as well, of an unconquerable spirit.***

***"No victory, however complete, long can survive the spirit that conceived it. The annals of mankind are replete with example: splendid triumphs in behalf of splendid causes that have gone for naught because the spirit that made them ceased to endure.***

***"This is only the second anniversary of Armistice Day – a day destined, if we will, to keep company with the immortals of the calendar which mark great moments of history that shall never die. Succeeding generations will acclaim Armistice Day. God grant they shall always acclaim it in the spirit that made it; and that this spirit, like the day, shall be imperishable.***

***"With this prayer in our hearts let us renew each year our vows of fealty, repledge and keep unshakable our faith in the high ideals, the lofty purposes, the unselfish aspirations and exalted, holy hopes that fired the hearts of Americans in 1918 and made ours a land from whence crusaders came, with souls aflame, worthy of their victory.***

***"To this end the American Legion, today and forever, solemnly pledges its all."***

**National Commander F.W. Galbraith Jr., 1920-1921,  
The American Legion Magazine, November 1920**



Legion  
60  
11/2006

1910

1920

o **1918** Known then as "the Great War," World War I ends with an armistice between the Allies and Germany at the 11th hour of the 11th day of November.



o **1919** On Nov. 11, President Woodrow Wilson proclaims the first Armistice Day. The original concept is the suspension of business for a two-minute period beginning at 11 a.m., with the day also marked by parades and public gatherings.

o **1920** At the suggestion of church groups, President Wilson declares the Sunday nearest Armistice Day should be marked with services promoting international peace.

***"To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations ...."***



President Woodrow Wilson, Nov. 11, 1919



## A look back at the origins and evolution of a federal holiday that honors Americans who fought for the peace of others.



### Veterans serving veterans

Since 1954, The American Legion has served six times as the host veterans service organization at the Veterans Day National Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery – 1954, 1959, 1968, 1976, 1987 and 2005.

### Fading glory: the World War I veteran

No one is certain how many of America's World War I veterans will celebrate Veterans Day in 2006. Of the estimated 2 million Americans who served in Europe after the United States entered the war in 1917, the Department of Veterans Affairs in 2005 listed just eight as receiving disability benefits or pension compensation from service in World War I. According to the Associated Press, the Census Bureau stopped asking for data about those veterans years ago. Using a report of 65,000 alive in 1990 as a baseline, VA estimates that as few as 30 remain.

### Last man standing

The last veteran to fight in the American Revolution died at age 109 in 1869, according to Defense Department statistics. Other wars and the ages of their last veterans the year they died: the War of 1812, 105, 1905; the Indian Wars, 101, 1973; the Mexican War, 98, 1929; the Civil War, 112, 1958; and the Spanish-American War, 106, 1992.

Lima Company marches in the 2005 Columbus, Ohio, Veterans Day parade. The Marine unit had suffered the most casualties of any in Iraq, with 22 killed and 40 wounded. *Corbis*

61

1930

1940



- **1921** Congress passes legislation approving the establishment of a Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. Nov. 11 is chosen for the date of the ceremony, and Congress declares Nov. 11, 1921, a federal holiday honoring all those who participated in the war.

- **1926** Congress adopts a resolution requesting the president issue a proclamation calling on officials "to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on November 11 and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies of friendly relations with all other peoples." Over the next decade, most states establish Nov. 11 as a legal holiday. At the federal level, the president issues an annual proclamation.

- **1938** On May 13, Congress passes legislation making Nov. 11 a legal federal holiday, Armistice Day.

Continued on Page 62



## VETERANS DAY

*Which is the correct spelling of Veterans Day?*

- a. "Veterans Day"
- b. "Veteran's Day"
- c. "Veterans' Day"

A. Veterans Day. "Veterans Day" does not include an apostrophe but does include an "s" at the end of "veterans" because it is not a day that "belongs" to veterans. It is a day for honoring all veterans.

*What is the difference between Veterans Day and Memorial Day?*

Many people confuse Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Memorial Day is a day for remembering and honoring military personnel who died in the service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle. While those who died are also remembered on Veterans Day, Veterans Day is the day set aside to thank and honor all those who served honorably in the military – in wartime or peacetime. In fact, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank living veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served – not only those who died – have sacrificed and done their duty.

Veterans and members of the U.S. Armed Forces march along Fifth Avenue during last year's Veterans Day Parade in New York City. *Corbis*

1950

1960

### 1941-1945, 1950-1953

World War II and the Korean War create millions of new war veterans in addition to those of the Great War, already honored by Armistice Day. On Nov. 11, 1953, cobbler Alvin King of Emporia, Kan., organizes the town's annual Armistice Day observance as "All Veterans Day." The Kansas governor attends and suggests similar observances in every U.S. city, prompting U.S. Rep. Ed Rees of Emporia to introduce legislation in Congress that would change Armistice Day to Veterans Day.



### 1954

On June 1, President Eisenhower signs legislation changing the name of the legal holiday from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. On Oct. 8, he issues the first Veterans Day Proclamation.



*"On that day, let us solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so valiantly, on the seas, in the air, and on foreign shores, to preserve our heritage of freedom."*

President Dwight D. Eisenhower,  
Veterans Day Proclamation, October 1954

*Corbis*



### Why do some schools close and others don't on Veterans Day?

Because there is no legal requirement that schools close on Veterans Day, individual states or school districts are free to establish their own policies on school closings. Most schools that do not close for Veterans Day schedule assemblies or other activities to honor U.S. veterans on Veterans Day and throughout the week.

### Is Veterans Day celebrated in other countries?

Yes, a number of countries honor their war veterans each year on Nov. 11, although the name and types of commemorations differ from Veterans Day celebrations in the United States.

For example, Canada and Australia observe "Remembrance Day" on Nov. 11, and Great Britain observes "Remembrance Day" on the Sunday nearest to Nov. 11. There are similarities and differences between these

countries' Remembrance Day and America's Veterans Day.

Canada's observance is actually quite similar to the U.S. celebration, in that the day is intended to honor all who served in Canada's armed forces. Many Canadians wear red poppy flowers on Nov. 11 in honor of their war dead. In Australia, Remembrance Day is very much like America's Memorial Day, honoring that nation's war dead.

In Great Britain, the day is commemorated by church services and parades of ex-servicemen in Whitehall, a wide ceremonial avenue leading from London's Parliament Square to Trafalgar Square. Wreaths of poppies are left at the Cenotaph, a war memorial in Whitehall built after World War I. There and elsewhere in the country, a two-minute silence is observed at 11 a.m. to honor those who lost their lives in wars.

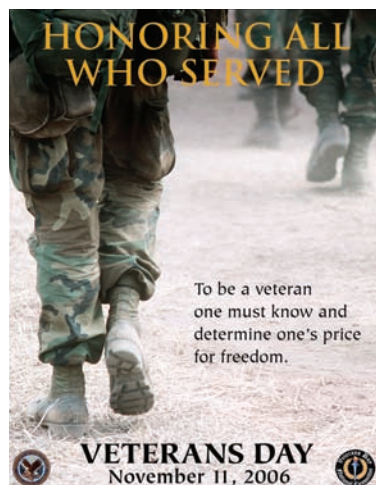
Source: Department of Veterans Affairs

### Veterans History Project

The Veterans History Project is an effort by the Library of Congress aimed at collecting oral history interviews, memoirs, letters, diaries, photographs and other original materials from veterans of World War I (1914-1920), World War II (1939-1946), the Korean War (1950-1955), the Vietnam War (1961-1975), the Persian Gulf War (1990-1995), and the Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts (2001-present). U.S. civilians who were actively involved in supporting war efforts – war industry workers, USO workers, flight instructors, medical volunteers and others – are also encouraged to contribute their personal narratives.

**(202) 707-4916**  
**vohp@loc.gov**  
**www.loc.gov/vets**

63



### How can I get a Veterans Day poster?

Each September, the Department of Veterans Affairs distributes posters to schools, state governments, Veterans Day Regional Sites, the military services and veterans service organizations. It fulfills individual poster requests until the remaining inventory is exhausted. However, you can download or print your own poster in the size and resolution you want directly from the Veterans Day Poster Gallery.

**[www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday/gallery.asp](http://www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday/gallery.asp)**

- **1968** Congress passes the Uniforms Holiday Bill to ensure three-day weekends for federal employees by creating four national holidays on Mondays: Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day and Columbus Day. The fourth Monday in October is established as the new date of observance for Veterans Day. The law is to take effect in 1971.

- **1971** On Oct. 25, the first Veterans Day under the new law is observed with much confusion. All states follow suit except Mississippi and South Dakota. Over the next four years, the overwhelming majority of state legislatures, veterans service organizations and the American people express a desire to return the annual observance of Veterans Day to Nov. 11.

- **1975** President Gerald Ford signs legislation returning the federal observance of Veterans Day to Nov. 11. Since the change to the fourth Monday in October, 46 states have either continued to commemorate Nov. 11 or have reverted back to the original date based on popular sentiment. The law is to take effect in 1978.

- **1978**  
Veterans Day observance returns to Nov. 11.

Sources: Department of Veterans Affairs, Military.com

# Can we talk?

*Time often limits meaningful communication between doctor and patient.*

**BY DR. JOEL KUPERSMITH**

**IT'S 2:15 P.M.** You had hoped to see the doctor at 1:30, but he was called to an emergency and is running behind. You fidget in your chair in the crowded waiting room and leaf through a third issue of *Sports Illustrated*. Finally, your name is called. You look anxiously at your watch, knowing you're to pick up your grandson from school at 3 p.m.

The doctor seems rushed, and you wonder if you'll have time to ask all the questions running through your head.

Sound familiar?

Many studies – both in VA and elsewhere – have examined how to help doctors and patients make the most of their time together. Much of the responsibility, of course, lies with doctors. For example, a survey of 400 patients at the Charleston VA Medical Center and Medical University of South Carolina revealed that even physicians' clothing – white coat, surgical scrubs, business, or casual – can significantly affect patient trust and confidence. Overwhelmingly, patients favored physicians in professional attire with a white coat.

Other research has looked at doctors' relational and communication styles. Increasingly, doctors are urged to see their relationship with patients as a partnership, rather than view themselves in an authoritarian role. Medical schools are placing an emphasis on teaching doctors how to be good listeners. Researchers at the Houston VA and Texas A&M who analyzed 279 doctor visits concluded that physicians can get patients more involved in their own medical care by frequently using "partnership-building and supportive communication."

By doing your part, you can help achieve a comfortable, positive relationship with your doctor. This will enhance your satisfaction – and likely your health.

*Joel Kupersmith, M.D., is chief research and development officer for the Veterans Health Administration.*

*This article is designed to provide general information. It is not intended to be, nor is it, medical advice. Readers should consult their physicians when they have health problems.*

## Do your part

Health-care providers must do their part, but there are measures patients can take to ensure a visit to the doctor is productive and satisfying:

### Before a visit

- Make a list of questions and concerns.
- Bring a list of all current medications. Include herbal remedies or nutritional supplements, such as vitamins.
- Bring a pad and pen to take notes on what the doctor says, or ask a family member or friend to come along. Most doctors won't mind tape-recording the visit.

### During the visit

- Speak up. Let the doctor know if you don't understand something. Ask the questions on your list you feel are important. If you feel rushed, diplomatically say so. If the doctor's time is too tight, request to speak afterward with a physician assistant or nurse, or schedule another visit.

- Don't be embarrassed to discuss sensitive topics, such as sexuality, incontinence or memory problems. If you're uncomfortable bringing up such issues, consider finding a physician with whom you feel more at ease.

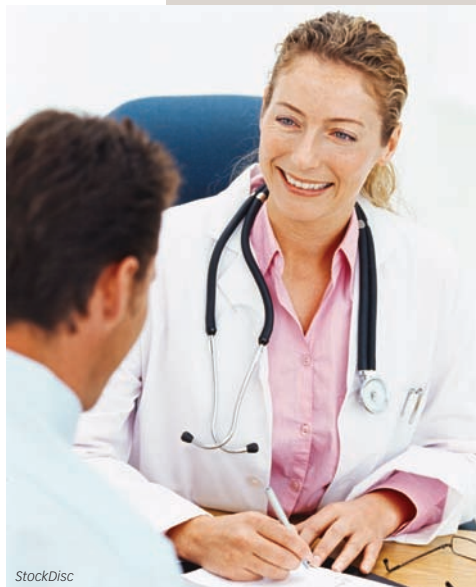
- Be honest – don't tell the doctor what you think he or she wants to hear. For example, don't say you've been cutting back on smoking if that's not the case.

### After the visit

- Don't be reluctant to call the doctor's office if there's anything you forgot to ask, or if any instructions aren't clear. Be firm if you want to speak directly with the doctor and not a staff member.

- Pay close attention to any worsening of symptoms after your visit, especially if you're taking a new medication. Call the doctor with any concerns.

- Follow up concerning lab results. Ask the office to mail or fax a copy for your records.



StockDisc



**NEW**

Commemorating the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Attack on

# ★ PEARL HARBOR ★

## U.S. Army Tow Truck and Jeep®



**1941 Willys  
Army Jeep**

1:32 Scale  
4½" Long

Precision  
Die-cast  
Replicas



**1941 Chevrolet®  
Hickam Air Field Flatbed**

1:32 Scale 8¼" Long

### Jeep Features:

- Spare Gas Can
- Dual Duffle Bags
- Original Drab Olive Paint
- Side Mounted Axe & Shovel
- Spare Tire Attached at Rear



Officially Licensed by  
**Jeep**  
DAIMLER CHRYSLER

**1941 Willys  
Army Jeep**

only  
**\$10** each

### Flatbed Features:

- Hickam Air Field Markings
- Flatbed Comes With Towing Chains
- Spare Tire Located Under Truck Bed
- Opening Hood • Opening Cab Doors
- Towing Hooks Attached To Truck Bed
- Baked Enamel Finish • Dual Running Boards

A tribute in die-cast metal to  
two American-made workhorse  
vehicles that efficiently moved our  
men and supplies during WWII

© 2006 The National Motor Museum Mint, 22 South Smith St., Norwalk, CT 06855-1040

**National Motor Museum Mint, Dept. TWJA-6001  
22 South Smith St., Norwalk, CT 06855-1040**

Please send me the following ordered below on  
your money-back guarantee (less p&h).

Each Military Vehicle just \$10

(please select) ☐ 1941 Flatbed ☐ 1941 Willys Jeep

☐ Set of Both Vehicles (Save \$5 p&h) only \$20

Add \$5 p&h no matter how many you order

(CT residents please add 6% Sales Tax)

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ check or money order.

OR Charge it: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex ☐ Disc.

Acct# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_



Call toll free

**1-888-215-6468**

Dept: TWJA-6001, M-F, 9am-8pm, Eastern Time

visit us on the web at:

**www.motormint.com**

For Web Orders Use Code: TWJA-6001

[IN MEMORIAM]

## Auxiliary loses devoted leader

The American Legion Auxiliary lost one of its greatest ambassadors Sept. 2, when Past National President Agnes Kennedy of New York passed away. She was 84.



Born in Freehold, N.J., to a World War I veteran and his wife, Kennedy joined Unit 507 in Brooklyn, N.Y., as a Junior member in 1938. She enjoyed 68 continuous years of Auxiliary membership, serving as New York's department president from 1967-1968 and as chairman of a number of national committees, including Americanism, Children & Youth, Legislative, National Security and Girls State.

"Agnes Kennedy was a dignified lady who was devoted to the American Legion Auxiliary," said National President JoAnn Cronin of Missouri, elected at the Auxiliary's 86th National Convention in Salt Lake City. "While I did not know her when she was national president, I got to know her the last couple of years and appreciated her many notes of encouragement and support. I will miss her, as will the national organization."

Kennedy served as the Auxiliary's national president in 1979.

Donations can be made in her memory to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

[STATEMENT]

**"Recent media reports that Gulf War Syndrome doesn't exist are misleading and mask the fact that even though ongoing maladies being experienced by Gulf War veterans may not have a scientific name they certainly do exist.**

**"The Institute of Medicine's recent report on the health of Gulf War veterans is basically a summary of existing peer-reviewed research and the committee's findings. The most contentious, which some media are just now reporting on, is the conclusion that there is no Gulf War Syndrome. This is not breaking news within the veterans community, but it does warrant more explanation because of the misleading headlines.**

**"What is important, and has been well documented, is that Gulf War veterans are sicker (than troops who did not serve in the theater), even if no one can conclusively declare why this is so. The American Legion's priority on this issue is to make sure additional funding and effective treatments are made available to help alleviate any suffering servicemember's symptoms.**

**"If existing research has not been able to provide the VA with adequate knowledge to effectively treat ill Gulf War veterans, then the VA needs to ensure that finding effective treatments is made a top priority."**

**American Legion National Commander Paul A. Morin, after an IOM report was released indicating there is no cluster of illnesses that could be attributed to a single source, and that there are no illnesses unique to those who were deployed to the Persian Gulf during U.S. operations there in the early 1990s**

[LEGIONNAIRES IN ACTION]



American Legion Post 407 members Regis Paridon, left, and Bill Daniel hold statues of themselves designed by a local druggist while the pair served in World War II. The statues were among 200 photographed for a special World War II memorial DVD created by the post and community of Doylestown, Ohio.

**POST 407, DOYLESTOWN, OHIO** During World War II a billboard was erected in the village square of Doylestown, Ohio, listing the names of local men and women serving in the military. By war's end the billboard had the names of more than 400 servicemembers – many of whom were photographed while home on leave by local druggist Eugene Stepfield. He turned each photo into a glossy print, glued it onto plywood, cut it out as a silhouette and then mounted it onto a wood base. More than 200 of these statues were displayed in the front window of Stepfield's drugstore before going into storage after the war.

Discovered in 1991, the statues were donated to Post 407 and photographed for a presentation documenting the community's World War II history. Photos and a story of Doylestown during World War II were added.

The presentation premiered at Chippewa High School's Veterans Day service and was also shown at Post 407, a Lion's Club meeting and throughout Veterans Day weekend on the local cable channel. Now on DVD, the presentation is available at Post 407, the local historical society and the public library.



[VERBATIM]

**"The devil came here yesterday. Right here. Right here. And it smells of sulfur still today .... He came here talking as if he were the owner of the world."**

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, referring to President George W. Bush in his address at the U.N. General Assembly in New York on Sept. 20

**"You don't come into my country, you don't come into my congressional district, and criticize my president."**

U.S. Rep. Charlie Rangel, D-N.Y., responding to Chavez's comments

**"Hugo Chavez fancies himself a modern-day Simon Bolivar, but he is an everyday thug."**  
House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

[HOME]

## Open for business: The Patriot Mall

Tired of fighting traffic at your local mall? Can't seem to find discounts before you leave the house?

Looking for a more comfortable way to shop? If so, then you'll want to check out the Patriot Mall.

Legion family members can now enjoy the convenience of shopping from the comfort of their own homes. Unveiled at The American Legion's 88th National Convention in Salt Lake City, the Patriot Mall – at [www.legion.org/patriotmall](http://www.legion.org/patriotmall) on the Web – was created to provide Legion family members with an alternative to traditional shopping.

Featuring more than 50 nationally known merchants, with more to be added in the months ahead, the Patriot Mall is also available to members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their dependents.

From electronics to pets, garden supplies to shoes, you'll be able to find what you're looking for without ever leaving your home.

Proceeds from online purchases directly benefit the charities and programs of The American Legion.

HONORING WAR VETERANS AND PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS

# EXCLUSIVE VIETNAM, KOREA & WWII SERVICE WATCHES

FEATURING YOUR OFFICIAL SERVICE EMBLEM, WAR MEDAL AND RIBBON



Official Veterans Military Watches honor your service to Country. The unique watch dial is a replica of your Service Medal and is a powerful reminder of the bravery and sacrifice made by so many during these historic conflicts.

The exclusive watch band features the Service Ribbon above the Service Medal dial. Your Service Branch Emblem or Purple Heart Medal, in full enameled colors, is set in the band below the dial. The caseback will be engraved with your initials, years served and Post Number.

Watch features include a precision quartz movement for accuracy within seconds per month, water-resistant case and adjustable bracelet, both decorated with 23 karat gold.

A convenient payment plan is available, and your satisfaction is guaranteed or return within 30 days for replacement or refund.

**NEW! KOREAN WAR & WORLD WAR II SERVICE WATCHES!**



**YOU HAVE EARNED THE RIGHT TO WEAR THIS SERVICE MEDAL WATCH.**



ORDER BY DECEMBER 15TH TO GUARANTEE CHRISTMAS DELIVERY.

FOR FASTEST SERVICE CALL TOLL FREE TO ORDER: **1-800-255-3048**

Monday - Friday from 9am - 5pm EST Have Credit Card ready when ordering.

**ORDER FORM**

OR, MAIL TO: Veterans Commemoratives™, Two Radnor Corp. Ctr., Suite 120, Radnor, PA 19087-4599

☐ **YES.** I wish to order the following Service Watch, featuring my service branch emblem, medal and ribbon, Post Number, initials and years of service. (✓check choices)

☐ Vietnam ☐ Korea ☐ World War II

**SERVICE BRANCH:** ☐ Army ☐ Navy

☐ Air Force ☐ Marine ☐ Coast Guard

☐ Merchant Marine ☐ Seabee (not shown)

☐ **I AM A PURPLE HEART RECIPIENT,**

Please add my medal to my ring.

NOTE: A copy of your DD214 must be sent with your order.

**INITIALS DESIRED (3):** \_\_\_\_\_

**POST #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **SERVICE YRS:** \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Enclosed is my check or money order for \$125\* per watch payable to "Veterans Commemoratives" as payment in full, or

☐ Charge my credit card \$ 125\* per watch as payment in full, or

☐ Charge my credit card in two (2) monthly installments of \$ 62.50\* each.

**CREDIT CARD:** \_\_\_\_\_ exp. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ AMEX ☐ DISCOVER

CC# \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**SHIPPING ADDRESS:** (WE CANNOT SHIP TO P.O. BOXES)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone # ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

ALLOW 4-6 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY.

\* PLUS \$7.95 PER WATCH FOR ENGRAVING, S&H.

\* PA RESIDENTS ADD 6% (\$7.98) SALES TAX.

VISIT VETERANS COMMEMORATIVES™ ONLINE AT [WWW.VETCOM.COM](http://WWW.VETCOM.COM)

© CM 2004-2006

MEMBER QUALITY

## How to Submit a Reunion

The American Legion Magazine publishes reunion notices for veterans. Send notices to *The American Legion Magazine*, Attn: Reunions, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206, fax (317) 630-1280 or e-mail [reunions@legion.org](mailto:reunions@legion.org).

Include the branch of service and complete name of the group, no abbreviations, with your request. The listing also should include the reunion dates and city, along with a contact name, telephone number and e-mail address. Listings are published free of charge.

Due to the large number of reunions, *The American Legion Magazine* will publish a group's listing only once a year. Notices should be sent at least six months prior to the reunion to ensure timely publication.

## Other Notices

"In Search Of" is a means of getting in touch with people from your unit to plan a reunion. We do not publish listings that seek people for interviews, research purposes, military photos or help in filing a VA claim. Listings must include the name of the unit from which you seek people, the time period and the location, as well as a contact name,

telephone number and e-mail address. Send notices to *The American Legion Magazine*, Attn: "In Search Of," P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206, fax (317) 630-1280 or e-mail [reunions@legion.org](mailto:reunions@legion.org).

The magazine will not publish the names of individuals, only the name of the unit from which you seek people. Listings are published free of charge.

Life Membership notices are published for Legionnaires who have been awarded life memberships by their posts. This does not include a member's own Paid-Up-For-Life membership. Notices must be submitted on official forms, which may be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to *The American Legion Magazine*, Attn: Life Memberships, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

"Comrades in Distress" listings must be approved by the Legion's Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation division. If you are seeking to verify an injury received during service, contact your Legion department service officer for information on how to publish a notice.

To respond to a "Comrades in Distress" listing, send a letter to *The American Legion Magazine*, Attn: Comrades in Distress, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Include the listing's CID number in your response.

"Taps" notices are published only for Legionnaires who served as department commanders or national officers.

## AIR FORCE/ARMY AIR FORCES

**68th FIS (1946-2001)**, Oklahoma City, 6/29-7/1, James Johnson, (320) 857-2480, [jjohn@hutchtel.net](mailto:jjohn@hutchtel.net); **80th Ftr Grp "Burma Banshees,"** Milwaukee, 5/17-19, Hal Doughty, 3620 McElroy St., Eau Claire, WI 54701; **525th FIS**, Fredericksburg, TX, 4/20-22, Albert "Mike" Mikuski, (802) 254-6297; **642nd AC&W Sqdn**, St. John's, Newfoundland, 7/31-8/2, Paul Winterson, (508) 990-0225, [pwinter473@aol.com](mailto:pwinter473@aol.com); **815th Air Police Sqdn (Korea, 1950-1954)**, Topeka, KS, Robert Schrader, (517) 592-9771, [schraderg@peoplepc.com](mailto:schraderg@peoplepc.com); **1874th Eng Avn Bn (Pacific, 1943-1946)**, St. Louis, 4/11-15, Chet Southworth, (254) 634-6000, [chetwww@aol.com](mailto:chetwww@aol.com); **Ramey AFB Hist Assn**, Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, 3/20-24, Ken Coombs, (603) 735-4291, [ken-bon@msn.com](mailto:ken-bon@msn.com)

## ARMY

**29th Div 116th Rgt D Co**, Roanoke, VA, 6/1-3, Robert Slaughter, (540) 989-6512, [sjohnbob@cox.net](mailto:sjohnbob@cox.net); **31st Inf "Dixie" Div**, New Orleans, Cruise, 4/21-26, John Emory, (866) 282-3131, [emorynash@aol.com](mailto:emorynash@aol.com); **73rd Tank Bn 73rd Armored, 73rd Cav**, Louisville, KY, 5/14-18, Curtis Banker, (518) 643-2302, [dmbanker-curtis@northnet.org](mailto:dmbanker-curtis@northnet.org); **122nd Sig Bn A Co 2nd Inf Div (Fort Benning, GA, Feb-Sept 1961)**, Thomas Senuta, (860) 889-0654, [twstrucks@yahoo.com](mailto:twstrucks@yahoo.com); **278th Rgt Cbt Team (Korea)**, Pigeon Forge, TN, 3/16-18, Billy Stewart, (423) 745-9394, [bbstewart@webtv.net](mailto:bbstewart@webtv.net); **498th Air Ambulance Co**, San Antonio, 2/16-18, Ron Chapman, (210) 653-3114; **501st Armd Med Co (Fulda, Germany)**, San Antonio, 4/12-14, Dave Landon, (704) 574-9969, [davelandon9969@yahoo.com](mailto:davelandon9969@yahoo.com); **533rd EB&SR A&C Cos HQ Div**, Louisville, KY, Spring, James Cooksey, (502) 363-1651

**973rd Const Eng Bn HQ, A, B, C Cos (1950-1953)**, Ardmore, OK, 4/28, Bethel Baker, (254) 968-6225, [mageeb11035@earthlink.net](mailto:mageeb11035@earthlink.net); **Sugamo Prison Assn**, Branson, MO, 5/8-11, (800) 877-8687, [info@bransonfun.com](mailto:info@bransonfun.com)

## JOINT

**Tet '68 Vets (All Services)**, Hampton, VA, 2/2-4, Bill Kirkland, (804) 550-3693, [tet68info@aol.com](mailto:tet68info@aol.com)

## MARINES

**HMR(L)261 (1956-1960)**, Quantico, VA, 4/18-22, Dick Murphy, (765) 479-7523,

[echomike14@comcast.net](mailto:echomike14@comcast.net); **1 Co 3/7 (All Eras)**, Myrtle Beach, SC, 4/25-28, Dennis Deibert, (717) 652-1695; **1 Co 3/7 (All Eras)**, San Antonio, 7/18-21, Ed Stiteler, (210) 828-5773; **India Co 3/7 "Band of Brothers" (Vietnam, 1969-1970)**, 11/9-12, Washington, Roger Villarreal, (281) 930-8161, [rvillarreal8@houston.rr.com](mailto:rvillarreal8@houston.rr.com); **Marines of Long Ago (1940-1975)**, Quantico, VA, 4/24-28, Don Patterson, (301) 274-0100, [don@oohrah.net](mailto:don@oohrah.net); **NY State Mar Reunion**, Niagara Falls, NY, 6/7-10, Carl Steckler, (607) 844-5168, [cjs9@cornell.edu](mailto:cjs9@cornell.edu)

## NAVY

**England DLG/CG 22**, Philadelphia, June, Dennis O'Brien, (714) 961-6840, [dennis@ussengland.net](mailto:dennis@ussengland.net); **Epperson DD/DDE 719**, Louisville, KY, 5/13-17, Sam White, (906) 635-5993, [mwhite@nmo.net](mailto:mwhite@nmo.net); **Fox DLG/CG 33**, Charleston, SC, 5/31-6/3, Wes Moore, (360) 692-7207, [w.h.moore@comcast.net](mailto:w.h.moore@comcast.net); **Gen. H.W. Butner AP 113**, Philadelphia, 4/26-30, J. Gordon Fowlie, (609) 698-3883, [jgfowlie@aol.com](mailto:jgfowlie@aol.com); **Gunston Hall LSD 5**, San Diego, 4/29-5/2, Ron Kennedy, (623) 907-3688, [ussgunstonhallsd5@yahoo.com](mailto:ussgunstonhallsd5@yahoo.com); **Heavy Phototron 61-62, VAP 61/62**, San Antonio, 11/2-6, Jim Temple, (757) 721-3077, [temple2@cox.net](mailto:temple2@cox.net); **Jallao SS 368**, Charleston, SC, 5/7-11, John Mills, 1204 Waterside Blvd., Moncks Corner, SC 29461, [johnmillsassoc@prodigy.net](mailto:johnmillsassoc@prodigy.net); **Jason ARH 1/AR 8**, Branson, MO, 6/11-15, Bill Stansberry, (417) 649-6140, [sssl@joplin.com](mailto:sssl@joplin.com)

**Kalinin Bay CVE 68/VC-3**, Pensacola, FL, 5/7-12, Bud Raming, (847) 564-2159, [budram@sbcglobal.net](mailto:budram@sbcglobal.net); **King DLG 10/DDG 41**, Branson, MO, 6/14-17, Dave Nesbitt, (321) 259-7560, [nesb7870@bellsouth.net](mailto:nesb7870@bellsouth.net); **LST 902 (Korean War, 1951-1955)**, Pigeon Forge, TN, 4/26-30, Jerry Ingram, (308) 237-9155, [ingramusa@hotmail.com](mailto:ingramusa@hotmail.com); **Mullinnix DD 944**, Jacksonville, FL, 4/18-22, Bob Houghton, (843) 277-4362, [muxassn@hotmail.com](mailto:muxassn@hotmail.com); **Nelson DD 623**, San Antonio, 4/19-21, George Treibel Jr., (281) 485-3538; **New DD/DDE 818**, Tampa, FL, Cruise, Apr, Jim Collins, (407) 889-0933, [jimcc51@juno.com](mailto:jimcc51@juno.com); **Perry DD 844/DMS 17**, San Antonio, 3/18-22, Steve Silk, (973) 696-2268, [steve@ussperry.com](mailto:steve@ussperry.com); **Phoebe MSC 199**, Las Vegas, 3/12-14, Felix Antero, (310) 530-5429, [felixantero@sbcglobal.net](mailto:felixantero@sbcglobal.net)

**Requin SS 481**, Pittsburgh, 9/27-29, Jim Loudon, (319) 752-4165, [jloudon@interl.net](mailto:jloudon@interl.net); **Salt Lake City CA 25 Assn**, Tulsa, OK, 6/3-8, Myron Varland, (760) 777-1850; **Sarsfield DD/EDD 837**, San Diego,

5/2-5, Emery Spirko, (732) 254-5895, [theretiredman@comcast.net](mailto:theretiredman@comcast.net); **Sterett DD 407/DLG 31/CG 31**, Portland, ME, 5/3-6, Robert McGuire, [reunion2007@sterett.org](mailto:reunion2007@sterett.org); **Vietnam-Era Seabees**, Hampton, VA, 2/2-4, Dave Schill, (856) 234-2273, [dwschill@comcast.net](mailto:dwschill@comcast.net); **Yellowstone AD 27**, Baton Rouge, LA, 5/16-19, Paul Bowen, (352) 854-1387, [bowp@worldnet.att.net](mailto:bowp@worldnet.att.net)

## LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

**Post 64, FL:** Daniel F. Fennell  
**Post 119, FL:** Charlie Wing Jr.  
**Post 347, FL:** James Bratkowsky, Malcolm Graham, Charles Modrovsky, Anthony Olivieri, Romeo L. Pare, H. Warren Post  
**Post 854, IL:** Charles E. Lind  
**Post 1015, IL:** Robert G. Clapper, Carl Hatcher, James Pasley, Raymond Pasley, Matthew Phillippe, Wilfred C. Williamson  
**Post 85, VA:** William E. Lewis

## IN SEARCH OF

**7th Army Field Printing 7th Army HQ (Patch Barrack, Stuttgart, Germany, 1964-1966)**, Mel Belala, (504) 368-2691, [tee\\_off1@bellsouth.net](mailto:tee_off1@bellsouth.net)  
**8th & I Mar (1958-1961)**, John Reim, (856) 364-4626, [jreim@aol.com](mailto:jreim@aol.com)  
**8th Army Chicks FEC Champ Baseball Team (Japan, 1949)**, Don Betz, (423) 538-4935, [dbetz2@chartertn.net](mailto:dbetz2@chartertn.net)  
**45th, 63rd Inf (WWII)**, Chris Bradford, (916) 487-7433, [dragonfist007@hotmail.com](mailto:dragonfist007@hotmail.com)  
**74th Ord Co (SD) (Fort Bliss, TX, 1962-1964)**, Kenneth Ruben, (412) 341-8455  
**85th Comm Grp (Oding, Germany, EAFB, 1949-1952)**, Lew Hartwig, (316) 320-6107  
**163rd Sig Photo Co (Caserta, Italy, 1944)**, James Proudfit, (770) 388-7813, [proudfite@bellsouth.net](mailto:proudfite@bellsouth.net)  
**172nd Stn Hosp (Sendai, Japan, May 1949-Aug 1951)**, Donald Wood, [sendai1@verizon.net](mailto:sendai1@verizon.net)  
**320th Munitions Maint Sqdn (RAF Wethersfield, England, 1962-1970)**, Paul Baker, (573) 221-5470, [2bakerg@gmail.com](mailto:2bakerg@gmail.com)  
**388th Cbt Support Grp (Barrier Alert Crews, Korat RTAFB, Thailand, 1972)**, Don Stormoen, (702) 813-1818, [nevtat@cox.net](mailto:nevtat@cox.net)  
**553rd Eng Co (Floating Bridge) (Fort Knox, KY & Fort Polk, LA, 1956-1957)**, Wayne Gregorie, (843) 688-4669  
**707th AAA Gun Bn (Fort Dix, NJ, 1950-1952)**, Marvin Sanford, (901) 357-5268, [poppy21stcentury@aol.com](mailto:poppy21stcentury@aol.com)



**753rd Tank Bn (WWII)**, Chris Bradford, (916) 487-7433, dragonfist007@hotmail.com  
**799th AC&W Radar Site (Joelton AFS, TN, 1956-1962)**, W.C. Chilton, (931) 688-8473, wcandnelma@blomand.net  
**4677th Radar Eval Flt ECM (Hill AFB, UT, 1955-1958)**, Don Meulemans, (920) 336-1180, dm35km37@juno.com  
**5240th Support Sqdn (Oslo, Norway, 1956-1957)**, Roger Baum, (623) 466-9212, appmetfin@msn.com  
**6148th Tac Control Sqdn (Chunchon AB, Korea, 1954)**, R. Graham Daniel, (912) 685-4343, rgdaniell@hotmail.com  
**Army Meteorologists With 11-E-36, 905.1 or 93.E MOS (1950-1986)**, Paul Roales, (918) 437-5948, paroales@ionet.net  
**Army Personnel (Fort Banks, Winthrop, MA, 1942, Fort Adams, Newport, RI, 1943 & Valley Forge Hosp, Phoenixville, PA, 1943-1946)**, Bob Feeley, 4604 Durbin Drive, Martinez, GA 30907  
**ASA Sec Guards (Gutleut Kaserne, Frankfurt/Main, Germany, 1959-1962)**, Donald Ford, (410) 284-5274, edsel14@comcast.net  
**B Co 24th S&T Bn (Augsburg, Germany, 1966-1970)**, Robert Hines Jr, (781) 828-8099  
**Barstow Mar Corps Supply Ctr Basketball Team (1958-1959)**, Ronald Forrer, (937) 878-6963, re4er135@yahoo.com  
**George Eastman YAG 39 (Pearl Harbor, 1963-1965)**, Ernest Jones, (615) 851-0302, esjones31@bellsouth.net  
**HQ & HQ Det 8th Log Cmd (Camp Darby, Livorno, Italy, 1965-1966)**, Anthony Bassano, (408) 295-1634, abassano@sbcglobal.net  
**Megara ARV(A) 6**, Bob Bunch, (618) 758-2438, cooterville@egyptian.net  
**Minotaur ARL 15 (1951-1955)**, Charlie Holdgreve, (719) 685-2510, sholdgreve@aol.com  
**Niagara APA 87 (July 1945-June 1946)**, Joseph Nash, (502) 327-7120  
**Niigata Mil Gov Team (Japan, 1948)**, Bill Brown, (973) 267-6115, biljob@aol.com  
**Plt 327 (MCRD San Diego, July 1963)**, Henry Hernandez, (210) 545-4804, usmcrecon7@sbcglobal.net  
**R.B. Anderson DD/DDR 786 (1945-1975)**, Ferrell Crowder, (850) 476-6940, freckann@bellsouth.com  
**Recruit Co 109 (NTC San Diego, June-July 1950)**, Harry Weldy, (410) 658-6043, hweldy@zoominternet.net  
**RVAW-120, VAW-121 Dets 11, 18 (Sept 1970-Nov 1972)**, Paul Rifu, (717) 792-3378  
**Saratoga CVA 60 V-3 Div (1960-1965)**, Jimmy Anselmo, (504) 835-5744, janselmo@bellsouth.net  
**U.S. Mortuary System Europe (Kaiser-slaten, Germany, 1964-1966)**, Len McAuliffe, (603) 436-5705, lenmca@comcast.net  
**USN Recruit Tng Cmd Co 714 (Great Lakes, IL, Nov 1968-Jan 1969)**, Jimmy Bryant, (270) 598-0376, jimb50@bowlinggreen.net  
**White Marsh LSD 8 (Pacific, 1945)**, Angelo Marchese, (386) 426-2755  
**White Sands Proving Grounds 3rd GM Grp HQ Btry (1953-1955)**, Tex Hurst, (830) 899-3147, furrh@hotmail.com

## TAPS

**Alexander Leo Anderson, Dept. of District of Columbia.** Nat'l Mbrshp. & Post Activ. Cmte. Advisory Board Memb. 1956-1958, Nat'l Distinguished

Guests Cmte. Vice Chmn. 1960-1961, Nat'l Veterans Preference Cmte. Memb. 1960-1961, Nat'l Mbrshp. & Post Activ. Cmte. Memb. 1973-1978, Dept. Cmdr. 1977-1978, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Alt. Memb. 1978-1980, Nat'l Finance Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Vice Chmn. 1980-1981, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Memb. 1980-1982, Nat'l Legis. Cncl. Memb. 1981-1982, Nat'l Veterans Affairs & Rehab. Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Memb. 1981-1982, Nat'l Veterans Affairs & Rehab. Cmsn. Memb. 1982-1988, Nat'l Veterans Affairs & Rehab. Cmsn. Vice Chmn. 1986-1987.

**William Raymond Ball, Dept. of Missouri.** Nat'l Distinguished Guests Cmte. Memb. 1974-1975, Nat'l Cmsn. on Children & Youth Memb. Region 5 1974-1990, Nat'l Cmsn. on Children & Youth Vice Chmn. Region 5 1978-1979, 1982-1983, 1985-1986 and 1988-1989, and Dept. Cmdr. 1990-1991.

**Rev. George R.M. Rumney, Dept. of Virginia.** Nat'l Chaplain 1981-1982.

**George G. Sinopoli, Dept. of California.** Nat'l Rehab. Cmsn. Advisory Board Memb. 1954-1957, Nat'l Mbrshp. & Post Activ. Cmte. Memb. 1957-1958, Nat'l Housing Cmte. Memb. 1959-1960, Nat'l Publications Cmsn. Memb. 1969-1972, The American Legion Magazine Cmsn. Memb. 1972-1975, 1977-1993, 1994-1998 and 1999-2006, Dept. Cmdr. 1976-1977, Nat'l Legis. Cncl. Memb. 1975-1982, 1999-2000 and 2001-2003, Alt. Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Memb. 1978-1980, Nat'l Cmdr. Aide 1993-1994 and Nat'l Distinguished Guests Cmte. Chmn. 1998-1999.

## America's Revived Silver Dollar

**First 1971 Ike Silver Dollar BU**

**ONLY \$7.95**

**\$17.50**

**Elsewhere**

The U.S. Mint revived the traditional-size silver dollar 35 years ago in a special collector edition. Shown are President Eisenhower and the "Eagle on Moon" Apollo 11 emblem (our space program began under Ike's administration). Brilliant Uncirculated. 40% silver. **New-Customer Price: \$7.95 (#12213). 3 for \$22.50. Limit 3. NO UNORDERED COINS SENT.**

**Add \$2 postage. 30-Day No-Risk Home Examination: Money-Back Guarantee.** To order by credit card call toll-free. Or send a check or money order to:

**International Coins & Currency**

62 Ridge St., Dept. 4738

Montpelier, VT 05602

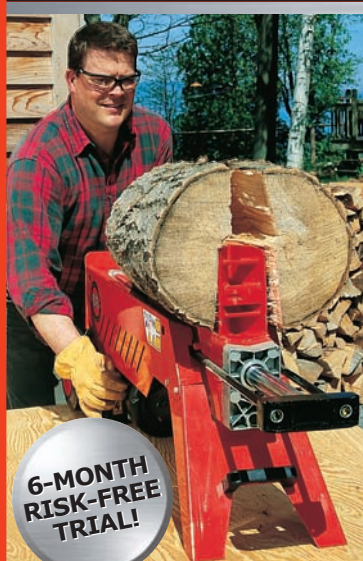
Order at **1-800-451-4463**  
[www.iccoin.net](http://www.iccoin.net) (many more great deals)

4738



## POWERFUL NEW ELECTRIC WOOD SPLITTER!

The Amazing Electric/Hydraulic DR® WOOD SPLITTER handles logs up to 16" thick!



**6-MONTH RISK-FREE TRIAL!**

**SAVE YOUR BACK... no more chopping!**



- **ELECTRIC POWER** means no loud noise or fumes, so you can split ANY TIME, even in a garage or basement — night or day, rain or shine!
- **POWERFUL** 1800-watt electric (110v) motor splits logs up to 16" thick with 6 TONS of hydraulic pressure!
- **FITS ON A WORKBENCH** allowing you to STAND UP while splitting wood! No more sore back from hunching over a big gas-powered splitter!
- **TRANSPORTS EASILY** on wheels like a piece of airline luggage...fits in almost any car trunk.

**Call Toll-Free:**

**1-800-456-3154**

☒ **YES!** Please rush me FREE full details of the New Electric/Hydraulic DR® WOOD SPLITTER, including details of your 6 month free trial offer, low, factory-direct prices, and seasonal savings now in effect.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ AML  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
**DR® POWER EQUIPMENT**, Dept. 55015X  
 127 Meigs Road, Vergennes, VT 05491  
[www.DRwoodsplitter.com](http://www.DRwoodsplitter.com)

© 2006 CHP, Inc.

## Rare 1921 Peace Silver Dollar



### First Year of issue Minted In High Relief

Struck to commemorate the end of WWI, the 1921 Peace dollar was struck in very high relief, giving the coin an impressive appearance similar to that seen on the "High Relief" \$20 Gold Piece of 1907. The relief was too high, making it hard to strike and causing excessive die breakage and in 1922 the relief was lowered. A rare and valuable one-year type coin available in Very Fine condition for only \$159.95 + \$7 PH. Quantities are limited, please call today to reserve your coin.



**EASTERN NUMISMATICS INC.**  
642 FRANKLIN AVENUE, GARDEN CITY, NEW YORK 11530  
1-800-835-0008 USCOINS.COM

## Rings to Honor Your Service



Call today for a **FREE** color catalog of over 150 eye-catching **Classic Military Rings**, plus a **Special Report** you should read before buying any service ring: **1-573-221-7786 (24 hr. recorded message)**. Or write: **Classic Rings**, 1209 Broadway, Dept. A-1106, Hannibal MO 63401. **Code A-1106**

[www.ClassicRings.com](http://www.ClassicRings.com)

**New Customer Special**  
**VIAGRA®**  
5 - 50mg pills  
**\$49.00**  
also available  
Cialis, Propecia, Levitra, Tamiflu,  
& more FDA Approved Medications  
**VIA MEDIC.com**  
SAFE • SECURE • DISCREET  
**800-467-0288**  
offer valid while supplies last

[www.priorsservice.com](http://www.priorsservice.com)  
**AIRBORNE**  
**Hats • Shirts • Pins  
Patches • Flags & More**  
Over 10,000 items!!  
**1.877.241.8611**

**HAT PINS • MEDALS • BALL CAPS**  
**BUCKLES • PATCHES**  
**HONORS**  
by Hoover's Mfg., Co.  
P.O. Box 547AL, Peru, IL 61354  
Fax: 1-815-223-1499  
Email: [dave@hmchonors.com](mailto:dave@hmchonors.com)  
Website: [www.hmchonors.com](http://www.hmchonors.com)

**Need Sleep? LOW PRICES!**  
**ADJUSTABLE BEDS**  
In-Home  
90 Day  
Trial  
**FREE VIDEO AND BROCHURE**  
**NO SALESMAN WILL COME TO YOUR HOME**  
**800-401-8692**  
Or write to: Sleep Comfort Adjustable Beds  
15950 Bernardo Center Dr., #B, San Diego, CA 92127  
[www.sleep-comfort.com](http://www.sleep-comfort.com)

**2 SEAT BIKE  
DRIVES LIKE A CAR**  
• Easy to Pedal  
• Multi-Speed  
• 1, 2 & 4 Seaters  
• Optional Electric Motor  
**FREE BROCHURE**  
1-800-974-6233 Ext. 3386 • [www.4wc.com/3386](http://www.4wc.com/3386)  
**RHOADES CAR** Dept. 3386 • 125 Rhoades Lane  
Hendersonville, Tennessee 37075

**SORE GUMS?**  
**PERI-GUM®**  
Mouthwash Concentrate  
Fighting Gum Problems Naturally for Over 8 Years  
*Keep your Teeth, with Healthy Gums™*  
Patented by a WWII Veteran  
At local health stores • [www.peri-gum.com](http://www.peri-gum.com) • 908-272-3081

## CLASSIFIED

SEND ADVERTISING COPY AND REMITTANCE TO: Ms. Kyona Levine, Classified Advertising, The American Legion Magazine, c/o James G. Elliott Company, Inc., 626 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 500, Los Angeles, CA 90017. (213) 624-0900, Ext. 1219, FAX (213) 624-0997. All classified advertising is payable in advance by check or credit card. Please make remittance payable to "The American Legion Magazine." RATES: \$34 per word. Count street addresses and box numbers as two words; all city, state and zip codes as three words. 3 word minimum. CIRCULATION: 2,500,000 per month. DEADLINE: Advertising copy must be received 60 days before cover date of issue desired. All advertisements are accepted at the discretion of the publisher.

### APPAREL

**SUSPENDERS.** Patented "no-slip clip." Catalog, (800) 700-4515, [www.suspenders.com](http://www.suspenders.com).

**CASUAL JUMPSUITS** and new warm-up suits. Great selection. Catalog, (800) 397-3086, [www.myjumpsuit.com](http://www.myjumpsuit.com).

### CASINO SUPPLIES/PLAYING CARDS

CATALOG, (800) 233-0828, [www.kardwell.com](http://www.kardwell.com).

### COINS & COLLECTIBLES

[www.kilroychallengecoin.com](http://www.kilroychallengecoin.com).

### FOR SALE

**MASS-GRADING SOFTWARE.** [Earthworkbymitch@aol.com](http://Earthworkbymitch@aol.com).

### MISCELLANEOUS

**OXYGEN USERS:** Enjoy freedom to travel! Oxlife's lightweight, American-made oxygen concentrators produce 3-6 LPM continuously. For home, car, even overseas. (800) 780-2616, [www.oxlifeinc.com](http://www.oxlifeinc.com).

### OF INTEREST TO ALL

**BETTER THAN VIAGRA?** Stamina-Rx. Two tablets \$5, 30 tablets \$39.95. (800) 458-1613.

[www.BeholdJesus.info](http://www.BeholdJesus.info).

[USAMONUMENTS.COM](http://USAMONUMENTS.COM), (888) 978-2883.

[WWW.VP1POPS.COM](http://WWW.VP1POPS.COM).

[WWW.FLAGS-POLES.COM](http://WWW.FLAGS-POLES.COM).

### PERSONALS

**MEET NICE SINGLES.** Free catalog, (931) 879-4625.

### REUNION PLANNERS

**CUSTOM REUNION RIBBONS**, (800) 208-6804.

### WANTED

**BANJOS**, (800) 451-9728.

**BOY SCOUT PATCHES**, (940) 566-5766.

**SWORDS**, (800) 798-6167.

**TUBE AMPLIFIERS**, radio tubes, (201) 864-4807.

**U.S. MILITARY MEDALS & RIBBONS**  
**FREE COLOR CATALOG!**  
**FREE SHIPPING!**  
**TOLL FREE TEL: 800-864-5062**  
**VETS SUPPLY LINE**  
10550 CO RD 81, #218  
MAPLE GROVE, MN 55369  
**WEB SITE: www.MilitaryVetsPX.com**  
**CUSTOM BALL CAPS-NAVY SHIP CAPS**

**WWII Pilot Jackets**  
**\$119**  
**Air Force A-2  
Navy G-1**  
Authentic Brown  
Goatskin Leather  
Sizes S-XXL  
LT-XXLT  
**800-247-9501**  
[Airborne-Leathers.com](http://Airborne-Leathers.com)  
Mail cc, check or money order to:  
Airborne Leather  
311 East Park St.  
Moonachie, NJ 07074



# HEARING AIDS UP TO 60% SAVINGS



**30-DAY  
TRIAL**

**TRY  
BEFORE  
YOU BUY**

**GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES!**

- ALL MAKES & MODELS
- TERMS ARRANGED
- 30 YRS. EXPERIENCE
- ALL MAKE REPAIRS
- CUSTOM INSTRUMENT SPECIALISTS •

FOR FREE INFORMATION CALL:

**1-800-323-4212**

*We're the oldest, biggest and best*

LLOYDS, DEPT. AL BOX 1645, ROCKFORD, IL 61110

## Costa Rica 10 Days "Brilliant Affordable Pricing" \$995 -Arthur Frommer's Budget Travel Column Volcanoes, Beaches, Rainforests



10 Affordable \$995 Escorted Tours

- Mexico's Copper Canyon Train, Guatemala
- Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Fall Colors
- California, Canadian Rockies, Nova Scotia
- and More. 28 Page Free Brochure

Fully Escorted Tours Over 50 Years

**Caravan**  
Caravan.com 1-800-Caravan

Tell The World **YOU** Served  
**Military Rings- All Branches**  
1000's of styles to choose from  
starting at \$149



**TJ Jewelry**

857 E. White Mountain Blvd.  
Pinetop, AZ 85935

1-800-544-9706 [www.tjjewelry.com](http://www.tjjewelry.com)

# IMPOTENCE SOLVED

## COVERED BY MEDICARE

If you have Medicare or Insurance, you may be eligible to receive the **NEW** Encore Deluxe Erection System at little or no cost. The **NEW** Encore Deluxe System has both a manual and battery pump.

## RATED #1 BY UROLOGISTS

Encore is the only manufacturer that offers both pumps as one Deluxe System.

For more information call:

**1-800-475-3091**



7696 15th St. E. • Sarasota, FL 34243



## Moving?

**Legion members can SAVE  
with discounted pricing on  
state-to-state moving**



**Call 1.800.871.8864**

e-mail: [alliedmoving@verizon.net](mailto:alliedmoving@verizon.net)



**northAmerican.**

**Call 1.800.524.5533**

e-mail: [navlmoving@comcast.net](mailto:navlmoving@comcast.net)

Web site: <http://legion.myhomebenefits.com>

Allied Van Lines, Inc. U.S. DOT No. 076235  
North American Van Lines, Inc. U.S. DOT No. 070851

## Hearing Aids! Free Catalog!

**Save Up To 70%**

**1-800-462-5778**

**Monroe Hearing**

**P O Box A-3976 Chicago, Il. 60690**

**Veterans, Your  
Military Awards!**

**3000 Official Medals,  
Badges, Patches &  
Insignia For • Army  
• Air Force • Marines  
• Navy • Coast Guard**

**NEW Korea  
Service Medal  
available**

**Call for your FREE Color Catalog**  
**Medals of America 1-800-486-1651**

Visit our  
Web Store @ [www.usmedals.com](http://www.usmedals.com)

**CUSTOM MILITARY**

ORDER BY 12/14 FOR HOLIDAY DELIVERY

**PERSONALIZED MUGS  
COASTERS & MOUSE PADS  
MILITARY TAPESTRY  
THROWS & PILLOWS**

**CUSTOM EMBROIDERED  
CAPS\*JACKETS\*SHIRTS  
BAGS\*BLANKETS & MORE**

**WE OFFER OVER 4000 SHIPS  
UNITS\*WARBIRDS\*ARMOR**

**FAST DELIVERY**  
**585-377-2070**

Custom Military  
PO Box 276  
Penfield, NY 14526

[www.custommilitary.com](http://www.custommilitary.com)

Member **BBB ElectropedicBeds.com** Since 1964

**Electric Home Care Products**

Adjustable Beds    Wheelchairs    Stair Lifts  
Hospital Beds    Scooters    Lift-Chairs  
Mattresses    Car Lifts    Elevators

**GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICE (800) 528-3974**

**Morgan Silver Dollars**

★ ★ ★  
**19th Century** **MS-60/63**  
BRILLIANT  
UNCIRCULATED

**Only \$29.75 PER COIN**

**5 COIN MINIMUM/20 COIN LIMIT**

**Call Toll Free 1-888-260-8111** ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

*Long Island Galleries Inc.*

**9 SUSAN DRIVE • WADING RIVER, NY 11792**  
Date of our Choice/Prices Subject to Change  
Add \$6 P&H/NY State Residents Add Sales Tax

**STRONGER THAN VIAGRA®**

**Pharmaceutical Grade Alternative  
Without Prescription!**

(30 tabs) - blue 100mg \$89.95  
(60 tabs) - Save \$40.00 \$129.95  
(90 tabs) - Save \$70.00 \$179.95

**Order Today 24 HR Order Line!**  
**Credit Cards & Check By Phone.**

**TOLL FREE 1-888-527-0870 ext AL-2.**

**Supplies or Send Check or M.O. To: Free Shipping!**  
**Limited! P.E. LABS, 1025 SW 59th st**  
**OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73109-4902**

[WWW.USAVEONPILLS.COM](http://WWW.USAVEONPILLS.COM)

## parting shots

**An optimist is someone who tells you to cheer up when everything is going his way.**

**A HUSBAND STEPPED** on one of those penny scales that tell a person's weight and fortune. "Listen to this," he said to his wife, showing her a small, white card. "It says I'm energetic, bright, resourceful and a great lover."

"Uh huh," his wife nodded, pointing to the card. "Look, it has your weight wrong, too."

**THE CHILDREN** lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note and posted it on the apple tray: "Take only one. God is watching."

At the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate-chip cookies. Moving through the line, one child whispered to another, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

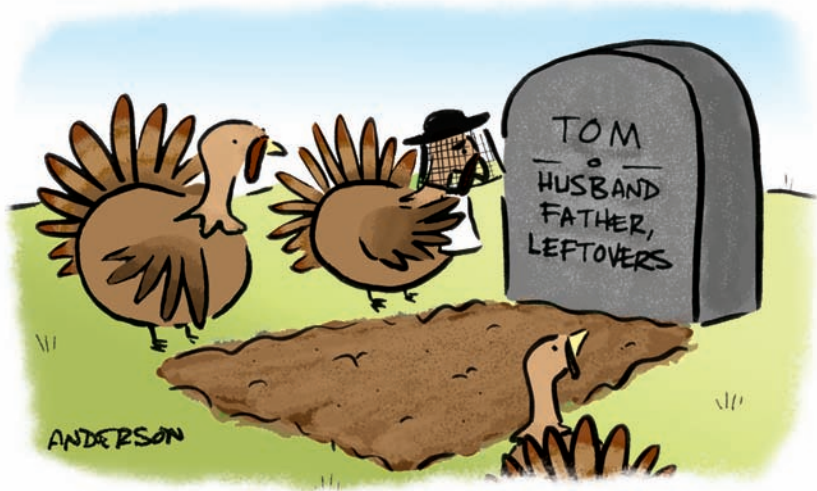
**A MAN GOES** to see his supervisor in the front office. "Boss," he says, "we're doing some heavy house-cleaning at home tomorrow, and my wife needs me to help with the attic and the garage, moving and hauling stuff."

"We're short-handed, Smith," the boss replies. "I can't give you the day off."

"Thanks, boss," Smith says. "I knew I could count on you!"

**A YOUNG BOY**, tired of following rules, asked, "Dad, when will I be old enough to do as I please?"

His father answered, "I just don't know, son. No male has ever lived that long."



"Curses! Find and bring me the 'Dorothy' who outbid me on these ruby slippers."

**THE RECEPTION AREA** of the doctor's office was filled to capacity, but the doctor was working at his usual snail's pace. After waiting two hours, an old man slowly stood up and headed for the door. When everyone stopped talking to look at him, he announced, "Well, I guess I'll just go home and die a natural death."

**THE HOMEOWNER** was delighted with the job the painter did on his house. "You did great," he said, handing the man a check. "Here's an extra \$80 to take the missus out to dinner and a movie."

Later that night, the doorbell rang. The homeowner found the painter standing on the porch.

"What's the matter?" he asked the painter. "Did you forget something?"

"Nope. I'm just here to take your missus out to dinner and a movie like you asked."



"I'm sorry I haven't been able to help you with your inferiority complex, Mr. Myers. You've certainly helped me with mine."





# *Asbestos Cancer Hits Former Sailors*

Many sailors who served their country proudly aboard ships in the World War II, Korean, and Vietnam War eras, are now being **diagnosed with asbestos-related cancers.**

## **FOR COMPENSATION INFORMATION:**

**FREE PACKET** for mesothelioma or lung cancer, diagnosis/death, **please contact:**



**The David Law Firm**

*"Defeating Today's Goliaths"*

**Toll Free 1-800-998-9729**

**Email: [info@thedavidlawfirm.com](mailto:info@thedavidlawfirm.com)  
[www.asbestos-attorney.com/n4658](http://www.asbestos-attorney.com/n4658)**

The David Law Firm, P.C.  
Jonathan David\*  
10655 Six Pines Drive, #260  
The Woodlands, TX 77380  
(Greater Houston Area)

Handling cases nationwide with  
local co-counsel in state of filing.

\* Licensed by the Supreme Court of Texas.  
Not Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

## **FOR MEDICAL INFORMATION:**

**FREE PACKET** for mesothelioma patients, **please contact:**



**Mesothelioma Web**

*Hope \* Support \* Help*

**Toll Free 1-877-367-6376**

**Email: [info@mesotheliomaweb.org](mailto:info@mesotheliomaweb.org)  
[www.mesotheliomaweb.org/n4658](http://www.mesotheliomaweb.org/n4658)**

*The most comprehensive  
resource for Mesothelioma  
patients and their families.*



# ICE HOUSE™

## FLANNEL-LINED DENIMS!

Good Looking, Rugged Denims, all Warm Flannel Lined. Your choice of light blue, indigo, even a brand new carpenter style!



Indigo

If you work in an Ice House, or just want to cut back on heating bills, you need these warm Elastic Waist Flannel-Lined Pants!

- Denims are 100% cotton; Black Twill is a blend of cotton and polyester.
- Brushed flannel inside is warm cotton/polyester!
- 5 Pockets! 2 flannel-lined front, 2 back, 1 inside coin pocket!
- Full s-t-r-e-t-c-h waist with sturdy snap closure and zipper fly!
- Belt loops, including center back.

The Warmest, Comfiest Pants a guy could buy!



Black Twill



Blue Carpenter

New Style!



**Haband!**

Duke Habernickel, Pres.

1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Peckville, PA 18452



Shop Online:  
**Haband.com**

**1-800-543-4810**

ANY **2** pairs for only **29<sup>99</sup>**

Good Looking and **WARM!**

Light Blue



Top-to-Toe Warm!

As always, **100% Machine Wash & Wear!**



Indigo

Imported

## FLANNEL-LINED DENIMS

**2** pairs for **29<sup>99</sup>\*** 3 for 42.65 4 for 55.25

Haband 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Peckville, PA 18452

Send \_\_\_ pairs. I enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ purchase price plus \$5.99 toward postage. In GA add sales tax.

Imported

**ALL THESE SIZES! Waist:**

32 34 36 38 40 42 44

\*Big Men Sizes: 46 48 50  
add just \$4 more per pair

Inseams: S(27-28)

M(29-30) L(31-32) XL(33-34)



**7T6-01N15**

15

**INDIGO**

08

**LIGHT BLUE**

LO

**BLUE CARPENTER**

1J

**BLACK**

WHAT WAIST? WHAT INSEAM? HOW MANY?

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

☐ Discover® Network

☐ AmEx

☐ Check

When you pay by check, you authorize electronic clearing.

Exp.: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Mrs. Ms. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_

City & State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

100% Satisfaction Guaranteed or Full Refund of Purchase Price at Any Time!